

Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXIV, No. 485

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

March 15, 1998

In this issue:

Around The Nation: A coast-to-coast roundup of police news. **Pages 2, 3.**

People & Places: Death of a visionary; gun-recycling idea rings a bell; birthday bash; take your whistle & blow. **Page 4.**

Long arm of the law: Philadelphia reaches out to NYC to tap new commissioner. **Page 5.**

Surprise! Chicago Mayor's dark-horse pick to head the police force. **Page 5.**

Unlimited access? Were Arkansas jail inmates tapping into criminal history files? **Page 5.**

Kid gloves: Major-city chiefs renew their call for investing more money in youth-crime prevention efforts. **Page 6.**

Flunking math: A high-level police head rolls over NYC crime-stat fudging. **Page 6.**

Making progress: Black officers in Dallas are said to mirror the city's population mix. **Page 7.**

Off-white police force: Racial diversity effort leads to simmering police-test scandal in NY suburb. **Page 7.**

Cutting the wires: Pittsburgh plans to spend millions in becoming regional wireless information grid. **Page 7.**

Forum: Phony "police" credentials make for a very real concern. **Page 8.**

Green light: Supreme Court OK's two states' community-notification laws. **Page 9.**

Upcoming Events: Professional development opportunities. **Page 11.**

Join us in cyberspace!

Law Enforcement News now has its own home page on the World Wide Web — LEN Online — as part of our continuing information outreach to the police profession. You can access the page at <http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/len>.

Staring down the barrel

Retirements, competition for recruits may mean personnel crisis for Seattle PD

Seattle Police Department officials are scrambling for ways to stretch patrol personnel as the agency braces for a wave of retirements and competes with higher-paying suburban agencies for new officers.

The 1,154-officer department is operating at nearly 100 officers below authorized strength, and more vacancies are expected over the next 18 months, when as many as 170 officers who were hired in the late 1970s become eligible for retirement, said SPD spokeswoman Rebecca Hale.

Officials expect that a good many of those officers will sweeten their retirement deals by opting for six-month disability leaves granted by the state fire and police pension board to officers hired before October 1977, Hale added. "It's incredibly lucrative to go out on a disability retirement under the state system" she said, because officers can receive up to 60 percent of their salaries tax-free.

"When they take that six-month disability leave, they're technically still on payroll, so we can't hire new officers and put them through the academy, which is a 10-month process," Hale told Law Enforcement News. "We can't even hire that new officer candidate until after that current officer separates from the department.... We can't do anything about it because of our budget ordinance, which only allows us to have a certain number of authorized positions."

Those factors, coupled with a booming economy that has increased competition for recruits among area law enforcement agencies and a shortage of slots in the cooperative academy used by Seattle and scores of other Washington police agencies, has hampered efforts to stanch the personnel shortage, Hale added.

The staff shortage is prompting complaints from citizens about slow response time, increasing stress levels among officers, and negatively affecting employee morale, said Sgt. Mike Edwards, president of the 1,154-member Seattle Police Officer Guild. "It's having a traumatic effect for those who work in the field," Edwards told LEN. "We're having people who are simply running through their entire shift."

Officials submitted a plan this month to the City Council that outlined short- and long-term steps for alleviating the staffing shortage. Among them:

¶ Uniformed officers in non-patrol units such as motorcycle, traffic, SWAT, community policing, gang and anti-crime, as well as those assigned to foot and bicycle beats, "will be made avail-

able for dispatch to priority calls." The special units would not be disbanded and their functions would be maintained, the report said.

¶ Twelve detectives and one sergeant from the gang, juvenile, narcotics and internal investigations units are being made available for redeployment to meet training and other personnel needs, including conducting background checks. That will force the department to curtail its monitoring of youth programs and community outreach as well as serve fewer misdemeanor arrest warrants, the report said, and will increase caseloads for detectives who remain in the affected units.

¶ Long term, the department plans a more aggressive recruitment program, including asking other law enforcement

agencies, or hiring "qualified retired officers," to conduct background checks of candidates in order to "process more candidates without sacrificing quality." Academy classes would be double-shifted from 6 A.M. to 2 P.M. and 3 P.M. to 10 P.M., the report added, once again increasing "the number of officers trained in the required 10-month period without compromising quality."

¶ Other possible solutions include creating a training allowance or "salary pool" for officers in training. "This would permit the department to hire recruits and get them into the pipeline to more quickly fill vacancies as they become available," the report stated. The SPD would also be willing to join

Continued on Page 9

FBI says it will be ready for point-of-sale gun checks

By Jacob R. Clark

FBI technicians who are developing the Federally mandated instant background-check system for would-be handgun purchasers say the system is nearing completion and will be up and running by the deadline looming later this year.

The National Instant Check System, which will operate out of the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services facility in Clarksburg, W.Va., is due to begin operation on Nov. 30 — five years to day since the landmark gun-control measure known as the Brady Law was signed by President Clinton after years of heated debate.

The system is intended to replace the most hotly contested provision of the law — its five-day waiting period

on handgun purchases, during which time authorities check criminal records for prior felony convictions and other grounds for denying the sale.

The waiting period, which the Justice Department credits with having prevented 250,000 handgun sales to date, was struck down by the Supreme Court last year, after two Western sheriffs successfully argued that the Federal provisions was too burdensome on local law enforcement agencies. However, most police agencies in the states where the waiting period is in effect have complied with the provision.

The \$200-million computerized system is expected to process an average of 15,600 queries a day from gun dealers once it is in full swing, said Emmet Rathbun, the unit chief of the FBI's

Programs Development Section, which has overseen development of NICS. Adding to the demand, he said, will be a little-known provision of the Brady Law that will expand background-check requirements in the 34 states where none currently exist to include purchases of rifles and shotguns.

As the deadline nears, the FBI is assuring potential users — law enforcement officials and gun dealers alike — that the background checks will be conducted as quickly as possible.

"The permanent provision of Brady... says the system has to respond immediately, and if there's no response, then within three days, after which the sale can proceed," Rathbun noted. "We expect to respond within the three-day

Continued on Page 9

Study adds new fuel to 'taggant' debate

Researchers say chemically marking explosives is impractical; ATF still hopeful

The notion of adding identifying chemical "taggants" to explosive materials and other munitions has raged for more than two decades, gathering new impetus in the wake of recent terrorist bombings on American soil. This month, a committee of the National Research Council added new fuel to the debate, saying it would be impractical to add the taggants in light of the large volume of explosives used in this country.

"At today's level of threat, it is not appropriate to require commercial explosives to contain identification taggants," said Edward Amett, a retired professor of chemistry at Duke University who co-chaired the 18-member committee. "All the taggant

technologies currently available raise concerns about long-range environmental consequences, effectiveness in law enforcement, safety issues and costs."

The committee's findings were released just one day after the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms issued its own interim report on the subject. In conjunction with that report, Treasury Under Secretary Raymond W. Kelly, who oversees the ATF, noted, "Detection and identification technologies hold great promise for helping law enforcement prevent bombings and catch bombers."

"We're working to ensure that the ultimate use of taggants is as effective and safe as possible," Kelly said.

Beyond practicality, it was the potential effectiveness of taggants that appeared to trouble some

members of the NRC committee, whose co-chairwoman, Dr. Marye Anne Fox of the University of Texas, observed, "There is no one single measure that can make the nation safe from terrorist bombing."

Even if early-detection methods or tagging materials were developed for most of the explosives used in this country, wily terrorists would probably try to import explosives or find other ways around the monitoring system, added Amett.

As part of anti-terrorism legislation approved one year after the 1995 bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City, Congress directed the ATF to study taggants, which are chemical additives or color-coded tracers designed to provide clues as to the origin of explosives, and other means of identifying munitions. ATF

in turn contracted with the NRC, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, to look into the taggant issue.

In its report, released on March 4, the NRC committee said the Government should focus more on enforcing existing rules for storage of explosives and rely more on bomb-sensitive devices installed at its Government facilities and power plants. The committee also called for the creation of a Federal licensing program to restrict commercial sales of explosives and other bomb-making materials.

The panel also looked at possible ways of neutralizing the explosive potential of ammonium nitrate fertilizer — the substance that was a key ingredient of the

Continued on Page 9

Around the Nation



CONNECTICUT — A legislative committee has approved and sent to the Senate a proposal to establish a statewide policy for police pursuits, which would require police to notify a supervisor immediately before starting a chase, but not wait for permission. The proposal was modified after the Connecticut Police Chiefs' Association argued that making officers wait for permission could endanger the public because precious time could be lost before a fleeing suspect could be apprehended.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — A jury on Feb. 18 found Marthell N. Dean guilty of the unprovoked slaying of Police Officer Brian T. Gibson, 27, who was shot to death as he sat in his patrol car on Feb. 5, 1997.

Metropolitan police officers will get a 13-percent raise over the next two years — said to be the biggest salary hike in the department's history — but only if they pass a performance evaluation system. The tentative contract agreement still needs the approval of the D.C. Council, the city's fiscal control board and the union rank and file.

MARYLAND — Under a measure passed by the Baltimore City Council March 3, anyone buying a gun from a licensed dealer in the city will be required to purchase child safety locks.

By knocking on hundreds of doors a day to serve warrants, Baltimore County police officers H.L. Ellington and J.T. Arnold last year effected a 5-percent drop in the number of unserved warrants in Essex, a locality that accounts for 20 percent of the roughly 8,000 warrants issued each year in the county.

The state's Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has launched a new Web site that will feature citizen-oriented crime prevention information, a digest of the state's criminal laws, and an integrated, searchable data base. The site can be accessed at www.dpscs.state.md.us.

MASSACHUSETTS — Each of the state's 32 battered women's service groups will receive five of the 600 cellular phones recently donated by Bell Atlantic Mobile. The remainder of the phones, which are programmed to dial 911 automatically, will be distributed by local police.

The Boston Globe has charged that city police obtained a copy of a confidential application for a Pulitzer Prize and is using it to attack the paper. Beginning in February 1997, The Globe ran a series of articles that outlined police misconduct ranging from theft of drug money to lying on the witness stand. A department spokeswoman, Sgt. Margot Hill, said the series was unfair because it ignored or misrepresented the department's own efforts at curbing corruption.

NEW JERSEY — A two-year investigation of alleged corruption in the Parsippany Police Department is nearing completion, according to an investigator for the state Division of Crimi-

nal Justice, which is conducting the probe. State officials are saying little about the exact scope of the investigation, but The Newark Star-Ledger reported that it appears to be focusing on allegations that officers submitted bogus receipts to get reimbursed for clothing they didn't buy.

The drug conviction of Thomas Dickey was overturned March 4 by the state Supreme Court, which ruled that state troopers unreasonably detained him for four hours after a traffic stop before cocaine was found in his car.

Ronald Veale, 46, a veteran Port Authority police officer, faces up to five years in prison after being convicted on Feb. 26 of heroin possession. Veale was arrested when two city police officers saw him purchase five packets of heroin on a Newark street.

NEW YORK — The state Court of Appeals last month upheld a plan to zone X-rated businesses out of residential neighborhoods in New York City. Under the ruling, sex shops could not be within 500 feet of each other, preventing a concentrated red-light district.

New York City police officials have agreed to pay for the damage to a Bronx man's home mistakenly raided by narcotics officers on Feb. 27. The officers, who were acting on an informant's tip, searched the apartment of Ellis Elliot, 44, and found no drugs, then realized they had raided the wrong fourth-floor apartment. Elliot has no criminal record, and was not the drug dealer police were seeking.

The New York City Patrolmen's Benevolent Association is seeking an incentive pay plan similar to that recently offered to firefighters, which gives firefighters assigned to medical-response duties an extra \$12.38 per 15-hour tour of duty. PBA officials are angered because the bonus pact would end 100 years of pay parity between the city's two main uniformed services.

Black and Latino officers make up 30.4 percent of the New York City Police Department, but represent 44.4 percent of dismissals from the force since 1994, according to a review by a special departmental panel. The numbers have prompted charges of racism and claims that black officers are given urine tests three times more often than whites, even though the tests are supposed to be random. Of the 53 black and Hispanic officers fired after disciplinary trials, 23 were found guilty of drug-related misconduct. Police sources, however, say that while the impact may be disparate, there is no discrimination. Black officers filed drug tests three times as often as whites.

A 24-hour police presence and barricades set up on either end of a Queens street have effected an enormous turnaround in the drug-dealing activities on the block, according to residents. The block of 80th Street in the Elmhurst section is one of two specially designated "model blocks" in a citywide initiative designed to help residents rid their neighborhoods of crime. The program began in Washington Heights, where police said it led to a sharp decline in the number of reported crimes. [See LEN, Jan. 15, 1998.]

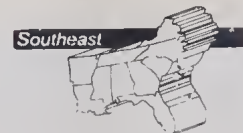
New York City Police Officer Willis

Stough, 27, will get three years probation and resign from the force under a plea agreement arranged after he was charged with hiring a hit man to shoot him so he could receive disability.

The Federal Government on Feb. 26 formally took control of the case against four New York City police officers accused in the beating and torture of Haitian immigrant Abner Louima last August. The case was expanded to include Sgt. Michael Bellomo, who allegedly reportedly helped the four officers cover up the incident. As did the earlier state indictment, the Federal indictment charges that Louima was beaten in a patrol car and then tortured in the bathroom at the 70th Precinct. The charges and penalties under the Federal Government's case are more severe than the officers would have faced under a state prosecution.

PENNSYLVANIA — Three men were arrested in late February in connection with the theft of 1,800 pounds of ammonium nitrate, fuel, blasting caps and detonation cord from a coal mine.

Insp. Evelyn Heath, one of the Philadelphia Police Department's highest-ranking women, last month agreed to settle her sexual-harassment suit against the city for \$150,000. Heath had previously won a \$375,000 judgment in the case, only to lose it last summer when a judge granted the city a new trial. In addition to the cash payment, the city will expunge from Heath's record a one-day suspension that she claims was imposed as retribution for her filing the lawsuit. The suit alleged that Heath was sexually harassed by a supervisor during 1993 when she worked in the 19th Police District, and that she was disciplined and transferred after she complained about discrimination.



ALABAMA — Bob Berry, 48, was sworn in on Feb. 16 as Hoover's first permanent police chief since 1995. Berry, a former deputy police chief in Birmingham, was chosen from a search that began in January 1997 and produced a field of 93 applicants.

ARKANSAS — Rogers police Sgt. David Horn Jr. has been placed on leave after he wrecked his cruiser Feb. 17 in an accident that State Police say occurred when he was drunk. Horn failed to make a curve and skidded off the road into some trees. He will be charged with DWI, said Benton County Prosecuting Attorney Brad Butler.

A reciprocal agreement was reached in February that will allow state residents with handgun permits to carry concealed weapons legally in Tennessee and Texas and vice versa. Arkansas previously signed reciprocal concealed-handgun agreements with Utah, Oklahoma and South Carolina.

Danville Police Chief Bill Gilkey and Sgt. David Kimball contend they were fired by the City Council Feb. 20 because of their cooperation in a State Police investigation of Yell County Sheriff Loyd Maughn. But Tom Tatum, attorney for Mayor Johnny E. Cham-

bers 3d, says the firing came about because the pair failed to follow police procedures when working on cases outside city limits. Maughn has been charged with soliciting a bribe and three counts of abuse of office. Gilkey is a candidate for sheriff.

GEORGIA — The firing of a State Patrol dispatcher who allegedly slammed his car into an Alpharetta police cruiser marks the second firing of a patrol employee and the fourth disciplinary action rising from alleged misconduct during a one-month period. Jared Patrick O'Neal, 20, was driving Trooper Dan Stephens' car when the two, both off-duty, crashed. In January, the two men were also in an accident in which alcohol was involved. In that case, Trooper W.L. King was suspended for allegedly helping O'Neal elude prosecution by failing to read him a required implied-consent warning.

The entry-level salary of Cobb County police officers would rise 19 percent — from \$23,393 to \$28,393 — if the county commission approves a proposal for across-the-board increases. Pay scales for other ranks up to and including captain would go up as well, although even with raises the county's law enforcers would still fall short of the salaries for other public-safety workers in the Atlanta metro area.

LOUISIANA — A Texas man testified in February that Logansport Police Chief Gary Clark shook him down for over \$1,000 after he was stopped for driving drunk and arrested for possession of marijuana. The witness, Robert Earl Stalcup, 48, said he was never prosecuted on the charges, and was let go after an initial payment of \$200. Stalcup claimed he then paid Clark \$1,375 over three months as part of a payoff agreement. Clark's attorney says the charges were sparked by drug dealers whom the Chief ran out of town.

District Judge Robert Downing ruled in February that police may no longer impound the cars of uninsured motorists. He struck down a portion of a new law that allows for seizures without a hearing.

MISSISSIPPI — A juvenile-crime measure currently being considered by the state Senate would make it a felony to sell or give a firearm to someone under age 21. Penalties would include a five-year prison term.

NORTH CAROLINA — Low pay and applicants' preference for small-town work is said to be jeopardizing the efforts of big cities to recruit officers and threatening community policing programs. The newspaper USA Today said the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department has 136 vacancies and few prospects.

The state is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn a Federal judge who held that the state's excise tax on illegal drugs amounts to double jeopardy. Revenue agents accompany local law enforcement at drug raids and seize cash and other assets to pay taxes on cocaine, crack, marijuana and other drugs.

SOUTH CAROLINA — The state appeals court ruled Feb. 17 that off-duty police officers may make citizen's arrests even outside their jurisdictions. The ruling upheld the admission of evi-

dence obtained by an off-duty Rock Hill officer in a drunken-driving arrest.

All Highway Patrol troopers have been ordered by the Public Safety Department to wear bulletproof vests while on patrol duty. The Dec. 31 shooting death of Sgt. Frankie Kingard, 39, who was not wearing protective gear, sparked a five-week review of existing policy that led to the new directive.

VIRGINIA — Gerald Jackson, a Fairfax probation officer, has recruited a half-dozen volunteer doctors to remove gang tattoos for teens trying to leave the gangster life. Jackson said that to qualify for the free laser procedure, which can ordinarily cost thousands of dollars, teen-agers must prove they want to go straight and must be off drugs and in school or working.

Serious crime in Arlington and Alexandria fell last year by 19 percent and 14 percent, respectively. Analysts attributed most of the decline to national trends, a booming economy and an easing of the violence associated with the crack trade. Community-oriented policing methods and the state's decision to eliminate parole are also credited. Aggravated assaults, however, rose in both cities, a development police attribute to the willingness of officers to charge perpetrators of domestic violence.



ILLINOIS — Donald Young, 27, was arrested by Gillespie police in March and charged with planting a bomb at a convenience store and keeping two bombs in his car. Young claims to be part of a right-wing extremist group.

Convicted child molester Jeffrey Morse received a 26-year prison sentence March 3 after having himself surgically castrated. He could have gotten 100 years for molesting two girls.

Serious breaches in security that make it easy to smuggle drugs and other contraband have been found at the troubled Cook County Temporary Juvenile Detention Center, and a panel of experts has recommended that all visitations be restricted to a special room under close supervision, with personal items banned from the center. Among other suggestions by the panel are searches of all staff members, moving the jail's youngest detainees, 10 to 13-year-olds, to other facilities, and diverting more non-violent youths from the detention center altogether and into unlocked residential facilities, electronic monitoring and intensive home supervision programs.

INDIANA — The arrest on Feb. 18 of Harold Edward Alexander, a 39-year-old Columbia Township man, on charges of theft, probation violation and contempt of court, brings to 383 the number of "Tristate's Most Wanted" suspects caught out of a total of 663 featured in The Cincinnati Enquirer.

OHIO — A state audit found the Stark County Police Department could not account for \$14,149 and small amounts of cocaine and marijuana that were seized in criminal cases between 1993 and 1996.

Three former Union Township police officers and a radio dispatcher last month filed suit against the township and several local officials, charging sexual discrimination and retaliation. The suit alleges that Sgt. Michael McMillan propositioned Officer Deborah Lovins-Vance in 1989, offering her his paycheck for "just one night." McMillan was found guilty of official misconduct in 1991, was reprimanded and placed on administrative leave, but Capt. Michael T. Burns, then serving as temporary chief, destroyed part of McMillan's disciplinary files so that future promotions would not be jeopardized. The plaintiffs, Lovins-Vance, Andrew Hamrick, Bruce Keaton, and dispatcher Melissa K. Ross, said they suffered adverse job conditions when they cooperated with an investigation into the harassment and missing records.

Chevie Kehoe, suspected of having ties to white separatist groups and the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal building, pleaded guilty Feb. 20 to attempted murder of Wilmington Police Officer Rick Wood, felonious assault of a passerby injured in a gun battle, and carrying a concealed weapon. In exchange, the government will drop eight other charges in a case that involves a shootout by Kehoe and his brother, Cheyenne, with police on Feb. 15, 1997. Cheyenne Kehoe rejected a similar plea agreement and in January was convicted and sentenced to 24 years. He later turned in his brother.

WEST VIRGINIA — The Senate last month passed and sent to Gov. Cecil H. Underwood a bill that would allow volunteers to help police issue tickets to motorists who park in spaces reserved for the handicapped.

The State Police has settled for \$775,000 a lawsuit filed by the family of a woman killed during a police pursuit. Amanda Smailes, 21, died when her car was rear-ended by a man trying to outrun police. The suit accused Trooper Kevin Plumer of reaching speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour during a chase that was being filmed for television by "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol."

The ACLU is criticizing a measure passed by the state Senate that would allow the release of names of juveniles convicted of felonies or violent crimes. Releasing the names, the ACLU said, would stigmatize teen-agers and reduce their chances of becoming productive members of society.



IOWA — State Senator Jeff Angelo announced last month that a proposal has been shelved that would have kept the state's most violent sexual offenders in the custody of the Department of Human Resources after the expiration of their sentences. Officials will continue to research the proposal, said Angelo.

MINNESOTA — The state Senate last month rejected a proposed seat-belt law that would have allowed authorities to

stop drivers for failing to buckle up. Currently, police can only ticket drivers and passengers after they've been stopped for other offenses.

MISSOURI — The state Highway Patrol is requesting \$15 million over five years to connect its 700-plus cruisers to a nationwide computer network. The funds would equip each vehicle with a laptop computer and access to national and state crime data bases. Officers would also be able to file all reports and citations electronically. Authorization for the proposal must first come from the Legislature, which will not be asked to act until its next session.

A new sheriff's substation opened in Jefferson County in February, financed by a \$1.9-million grant from the U.S. Justice Department's Community Oriented Policing Services program. The substation, in the Gravois-Dillon Plaza in High Ridge, will be staffed by eight officers and will serve a 50-square-mile area 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Specially programmed cellular phones donated by United States Cellular were given to volunteers of Columbia's Park Patrol, a group that provides extra eyes and ears for police along the 6½-mile MKT Fitness Trail. The trail has had one murder and one sexual assault since it opened in 1980.

Former St. Louis police officer Roland Page was charged Feb. 13 with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and possession of the drug. Federal authorities tape-recorded Page, 31, as he allegedly agreed to introduce a police informant to people who could supply him with between one-quarter and one-half kilogram of cocaine. He resigned from the force the day before he was formally charged.

NEBRASKA — The La Vista Police Department will be the first in the greater Omaha area to use beanbag ammunition, a cloth packet filled with lead shot and loaded into 12-gauge shotgun shells.

Scott Hayes, 26, of Falls City, was arrested last month and charged with attempted first-degree murder for allegedly shooting Police Chief John Caversage in the knee with a shotgun. Hayes was also charged with being a felon in custody of a firearm and using it to commit a felony.

State Patrol Sgt. William Williams, 49, who is suspected of stealing \$61,000 from an evidence room, turned himself in to authorities in Mississippi in early March. He was also charged with taking a state-owned car



ARIZONA — Fallout from recent charges that a boot camp in Mesa is abusing inmates has apparently reached all the way to Hamilton County, Ohio, where residents are urging their own state's authorities to investigate. About 20 troubled teen-agers from Hamilton County reside at the Arizona Boys

Ranch, a facility that houses 600 boys between the ages of 8 and 18, and which is managed by a private company, ICF Management Inc. A group of mental-health advocates from Ohio claim that the ranch is too far away to send young people, and is not equipped to handle the mental problems of many of its inmates. Moreover, instances of abuse at the ranch over the past few years include a worker being charged with aggravated assault on a 15-year-old; a \$1-million lawsuit which resulted from another employee sticking a boy's work-blistered foot in scalding water; and the drowning of a Mississippi boy who tried to escape in 1994.

Following a report that the Phoenix area leads the nation in thefts from cluster mailboxes at apartment and condominium complexes, the U.S. Postal Service has announced plans to bolt shut all out-going slots on such mailboxes in the metropolitan area.

NEW MEXICO — A \$2-million grant from the U.S. Justice Department's fiscal year 1997 Crime Victims' Fund will enable the New Mexico Crime Reparations Commission to boost services to victims of violent crime. Senator Jeff Bingaman announced recently. The grant is from the Department of Justice's Crime Victims Fund.

A Rio Ranch man was killed Feb. 5 when he pulled from his waistband an 8-inch cross that police mistook for a gun. David Allen James, 37, was pronounced dead after being shot three to five times. Police had gone to his home because he was threatening to kill himself. Capt. Robert Force of the Rio Rancho Department of Public Safety told The Associated Press.

Sgt. Steve Marquez, one of two Las Vegas, N.M., police officers involved in the shooting death of an 18-year-old in February, was reportedly involved in another police shooting several years ago. According to a report by The Associated Press, Marquez and Officer Albert Salazar responded to a street disturbance call in 1991 in which Thomas Arellanes, 24, had allegedly pointed a rifle at them, then was shot and wounded. In the most recent incident, Marquez and Officer Joey Mantelli are on paid leave while the State Police and the state Attorney General's Office investigate the death of Abelino Montoya, a high school honors student who had won appointment to the Air Force Academy. Montoya was shot in the head Feb. 14 after allegedly ramming the officers' cruiser with his truck and attempting to drive off. The details of the incident remain unclear.

Bills recently signed into law by Gov. Gary Johnson will expand the State Police by 40 percent and provide pay raises averaging 20 percent for officers, who currently start at \$23,000 a year. The \$13-million package provides \$2.8 million to hire 50 officers in the budget year beginning July 1; \$5.8 million for 40 new officers in each of the next three years; \$4.1 million to raise salaries. The legislation also raises the education requirement for newly hired officers from a high school diploma to two years of college.

The state's failure to approve legislation that would give the public access to information on the whereabouts of sex offenders could lead to the loss of

\$400,000 in Federal funds. A bill was approved by the state Senate and by the House Judiciary Committee, but did not pass the full Legislature.

OKLAHOMA — The Senate in early March approved a bill that would allow judges to order the surgical castration of rapists, sodomizers, and child molesters. It would require a positive DNA test before castration could take place.

TEXAS — Starr County Sheriff Gene Falcon pleaded guilty in March to charges he accepted bribes from a bail bondsman in exchange for referring him business from jail inmates. Falcon faces a five-year sentence and \$250,000 in fines.

Corporals Kirk Beauchamp and Chris Plank of the Denton County Sheriff's Office, along with their K-9 partners, Lika and Lex, last month were two of just six K-9 teams to complete a rigorous certification program sponsored by the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association, which was attended by approximately 40 teams from throughout the state.

Twelve-year-olds, Mike Long of Richmond, and Andrew Bedo of Rosenberg, were honored by the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Department recently for helping Deputy Mitchell Spiers after he lost control of his cruiser and crashed. Spiers was seriously injured, requiring 57 stitches in the back of his head. Long and Bedo, who witnessed the accident, flagged down help and used the cruiser's radio to call for help.

Forty state game wardens went undercover in February to catch poachers shooting prize whitetail deer from private ranches, mostly for their antlers or to make Western furniture. Working under tight security from a secret command post, the game wardens served warrants in at least eight South Texas communities. About 14 deer were killed during the undercover operation, which was carried out with the permission of ranch owners.



CALIFORNIA — Twelve-gauge shotguns will become standard issue for Los Angeles school police cars, under a plan approved Feb. 23 by Los Angeles Unified School District trustees. The passage by a 5-2 vote followed a contentious hearing in which several hoard members called the weapons a valuable deterrent while others said they feared students being shot accidentally.

Veteran Highway Patrol Officers Rick Stovall and Brit Irvine died Feb. 24 after their car was pitched into a river in Santa Maria swollen by an El Niño storm. The officers were answering a disabled-motorist call when the road they were on, Highway 166, collapsed beneath them, burying the officers and their car under mud, silt and debris.

Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan and other local officials gathered at gang-plagued David Gonzalez Park in Pacoima last month to praise

recent efforts to end gang violence. The Community Law Enforcement and Recovery program, a multi-agency anti-gang initiative launched in 1995, will receive \$3.7 million in state and Federal funding over the next year.

Two sergeants, a lieutenant and five correction officers have been indicted for staging fights between inmates at the Corcoran State Prison near Fresno. The indictments charged that the officers sent members of rival gangs into the prison yard at the same time, knowing fights would occur.

Los Angeles District Attorney Gil Garcetti plans to ask for more specially trained prosecutors to expand the department's hate-crimes unit. Hate crimes jumped 25 percent countywide in 1996, the last year for which statistics are available.

William Mitchell Bell, 51, was awarded \$378,000 by a Los Angeles County Superior Court jury on Feb. 12, after the jury agreed that his civil rights were violated when he was beaten nearly five years ago by a county deputy. Bell was "trousted" by two unidentified deputies after driving his late-model Cadillac to a friend's home. In exchange for Bell not seeking punitive damages, the Sheriff's Department agreed not to appeal the verdict.

HAWAII — One in three juvenile arrests statewide involves a girl, according to a report released in February by the Hawan Girls Project; the national figure is one in four. The report also found that juvenile arrests for girls have risen 78 percent since 1985, compared to 19 percent for boys.

A newly formed coalition of Wailuku judges, police, lawyers and others is hoping to establish a Maui Drug Court that will allow those convicted of drug use to undergo drug treatment in lieu of long prison sentences.

IDAHO — A bill approved by the Senate and sent to the House would make a list of juvenile sex offenders available to the public. Teen-agers over the age of 13 who have been convicted of sex crimes would have to register annually with law enforcement officials.

OREGON — Portland Mayor Vera Katz approved a police recommendation that officers be armed with assault rifles instead of shotguns. The Mayor's approval came after a policeman was killed on Jan. 27 by semiautomatic rifle fire during a drug raid. The study recommends the city spend \$310,000 to buy 166 Colt AR-15s with shortened barrels, plus .223-caliber ammunition.

State Police records show that Latino gangs added 280 documented members and associates last year, nearly twice the combined growth rate of white supremacist and Los Angeles-style gangs.

ERRATA:

The Jan. 31 issue of *Law Enforcement News* reported incorrectly, in "Around The Nation," that Portland, Ore., Police Officer Colleen Wabul, who was killed in the line of duty Jan. 27, was the first line of duty death since 1960. Officer Thomas Jeffries lost his life last July. LEN regrets the error.

Ring in the new

Taking a cue from a Bible passage extolling the virtues of peace, a Roman Catholic priest in Bridgeport, Conn., is asking members of his parish to turn in guns, which he plans to melt down to construct a bell that will peal throughout the city as an aural reminder of the toll wrought by violence.

"We're melting our guns down and making them into an instrument of peace rather than a weapon," said the Rev. Paul F. Merry, who presides over the Blessed Sacrament Church in Bridgeport, which, until recently, was known as the state's deadliest city.

While the number of murders in the city of 137,000 is down — 35 homicides were reported last year compared to an all-time high of 63 in 1991 — the per-capita murder rate is still twice that of New York City, according to FBI statistics.

The 700-pound bell, which will be about 32 inches in diameter, will be made using alloys extracted from melted-down guns, which the church has been collecting since Christmas Eve.

The effort is similar to "Guns for Bells" programs started by churches in the South, which Merry learned about at a Roman Catholic conference he attended last summer, he told The New York Times recently.

Merry asked Bridgeport police for assistance in the project, and they've obliged, collecting dozens of guns

through the collection period that ended Jan. 30. In exchange for their weapons, donors were offered gift certificates from department stores, toy stores and supermarkets, which ranged in value from \$25 to \$100, depending on the make of the gun and its condition. Members of Merry's congregation were given the option of dropping their firearms into a wicket basket near the church altar.

But guns aren't the only material needed to cast the bell; cash is an important ingredient as well. More than \$26,000 has been donated to the project, which will employ the services of a local blacksmith, an artist and a bellmaker, whom Merry has met to discuss the bell's construction.

Merry and other organizers of "Guns for Bells," who say their project is being designed as a message of hope for Bridgeport youth, say they won't be satisfied with one bell. The priest envisions several, which he wants to ring every time a fatal shooting occurs in the city, and there are plans to rev up the gun-collection effort again next year.

"I think society, especially this young group, has lost its value system when it comes to life," Merry said. "If, at the time of a killing, we can ring our bells, that says a lot to the community. We can alert the community that we have lost another life."

Added Elena de Murias, who is president of a local arts and sciences museum and is active in "Guns for Bells": "We are thinking of the future of the youth of Bridgeport. This is really a program of hope."

Death of a visionary

Pierce Brooks, bane of serial killers, dead at 75

Pierce Brooks, the legendary Los Angeles homicide detective who is credited with the creation of the computerized serial killer-tracking system maintained by the FBI, died Feb. 28 of complications from Alzheimer's disease in Springfield, Ore. He was 75.

The Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VI-CAP), which is housed at the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime in Quantico, Va., assists in the tracking of serial criminals, particularly murderers, by scanning a huge data base of unsolved crimes looking for possible similarities, particularly in criminal behavior patterns.

Originally designed to snare serial killers but subsequently expanded to include sex offenders and arsonists, VI-CAP has been "very successful to date," said VI-CAP unit chief Arthur Meister. "VI-CAP is Brooks's legacy — one which continues to positively impact police operations around the world," he said.

Meister told Law Enforcement News recently that VI-CAP will soon undergo even more revamping to further expand its crime-fighting capabilities. "But it's all based on [Brooks's] vision and dedication," he noted.

Brooks's visionary work in policing led to his selection as the first Law Enforcement Man of the Year in 1984, as work on VI-CAP was nearing completion. In an interview at the time, Brooks told LEN he began thinking about the concept when he worked on a particularly baffling murder case in the 1950s.

"I was working on a case where I had a gut feeling that the killer was someone who was probably passing through Los Angeles or had done this before," he recalled. "My problem was, where had the killer come from and where was he now?"



Brooks: Behind the avuncular look was a dogged investigator.

Brooks said he searched for clues in the case by spending hours in the downtown Los Angeles library, reading newspaper accounts of homicides from across the country "to see if I could see a connection, a killer who fit the description I had come up with."

"After 14 months, I saw a newspaper clipping of a killer who fit the M.O. I was looking for, and I cleared the case. At the time, of course, I had not come up with the idea of VI-CAP and I had not thought of serial murderers as a term to use, but that was primitive VI-CAP."

Brooks, who gained a reputation as a dogged investigator during a 23-year career with the Los Angeles Police Department, was the detective in charge of "The Onion Field" case involving the killing of a Los Angeles police officer in 1963 that later became the basis of a best-selling novel of the same name by Joseph Wambaugh. Brooks also served as a consultant for the TV cop shows, "Oragnet," and "Adam-12."

"He was a tremendously innovative investigator. He was by-the-book, but he was imaginative enough that he went beyond that, and solved a lot

of crimes that would not have been solved otherwise," said Charles Reese, a former LAPD deputy chief who retired in 1980. Reese and Brooks were colleagues who once commanded neighboring police divisions in the 1960s.

Reese, who is the immediate past president of the Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association, said Brooks also cultivated that macabre sense of humor peculiar to many detectives. "In one murder case, a clue that was found was a flower left in a toilet. So that became Pierce's 'Rose Bowl' case," Reese told LEN. "He was an original; there'll not be another like him."

Brooks was captain in charge of the LAPD's Intelligence Division in 1971 when he retired to become police chief in Lakewood, Colo., where he served until 1975. He then began work as an investigative consultant, playing a key role in the serial killings of young children in Atlanta in the early 1980s and other cases. It was his work on that case that led to Federal interest in — and funding for — what eventually became VI-CAP.

Law Enforcement News

Founded 1975.
A publication of
John Jay College of Criminal
Justice, City University of New York.
Gerald W. Lynch, President

Marie Simonetti Rosen
Publisher

Peter C. Dodenhoff
Editor/Associate Publisher

Jacob R. Clark
Staff Writer

Jennifer Nislow
Contributing Writer

Mary Mele
Subscriptions

Lisa Leslie
Editorial Assistant

Correspondents: Hugh J.B. Cassidy,
Jack Dowling, Tom Gitchoff, T.L.
Tyler, Ron Van Raelle

Law Enforcement News is © 1998 and published twice monthly (once monthly during July and August) by LEN Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 899 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10019. Telephone (212) 237-8442 Fax (212) 237-8486. Subscription rates: \$22 per year (22 issues). Advertising rates available upon request.

Requests for permission to reprint any portion of Law Enforcement News in any form should be addressed to Marie Simonetti Rosen, Publisher. ISSN 0364-1724. Law Enforcement News is available in microform from University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. P.R., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

The big two-oh

Hundreds of police union members are expected to join the International Union of Police Associations in Washington as it celebrates its 20th anniversary during Police Week in May, at which time it will honor one of its founding officials, former New York City police officer Ed Kiernan.

Kiernan served as president of the New York City Patrolman's Benevolent Association in the 1970s and played an integral role in getting an AFL-CIO charter for IUPA's forerunner, the International Conference of Police Associations. He led a breakaway movement that resulted in the creation of IUPA in 1978. In February 1979, George Meaney, then the AFL-CIO's president, announced that IUPA had been granted an AFL-CIO charter.

"Police unionism did not get off the ground literally until around the 1960s, which makes Eddie Kiernan one of the lateral pioneers," said IUPA spokesman Rich Roberts.

The IUPA survived many struggles in its early years, but as membership declined to just 10,000 by 1983, Kiernan decided to retire and turn over leadership to Robert Klievniat, who planned a series of reforms that led to the repayment of more than \$100,000 in debts the organization had accrued.

Under the leadership of the current international president, Sam Cabral, a former Defiance, Ohio, police officer, the IUPA has conducted a series of aggressive organizing campaigns that have brought in unions representing several large police departments.

The recent addition of the Boston

Police Patrolmen's Association, which joined the IUPA this month, marks the first time since the Boston police strike in 1919 that that city's police have joined an AFL-CIO union. "Our affiliation with the AFL-CIO through IUPA brings a whole new element of protection for our officers," said BPPA president Thomas Nease.

The IUPA also added two statewide organizations this month, the 1,000-member Colorado Coalition of Police and Sheriffs and the 800-member Connecticut Coalition of Police and Sheriffs. The new additions bring the total number of IUPA affiliates to 400, representing more than 40,000 officers.

Bombs away

The whistle-blower whose allegations cast a shadow over the FBI's vaunted crime laboratory no longer has

a job, but he'll still be comfortable as a result of a million-dollar settlement offered by the bureau to end his lawsuit against his former employer.

Frederic Whitehurst, who gained a reputation as the FBI's leading bomb-residue expert during his 10 years as a lab supervisor, returned to work Feb. 27, ending a paid 13-month suspension. But Whitehurst's return was short-lived. He tendered his resignation later that day, as part of an agreement that included a \$1.16-million pay-out by the FBI to his former agent.

In the 16-page settlement, the FBI agreed to the sum to purchase annuities that would pay Whitehurst, 50, annual amounts equal to the salary and pension he would have earned had he kept working until he reached the bureau's mandatory retirement age of 57.

The bureau also agreed to cover Whitehurst's legal fees, totaling nearly \$260,000, and to abandon any disciplinary action against him.

The terms of the settlement did not require the FBI to admit any liability

or fault in the case, which resulted in an investigation by the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General. Whitehurst was suspended in January 1996 as investigators pored over his allegations, which included accounts of sloppy lab work, inaccurate test results and testimony slanted toward prosecutions in major cases.

Some of Whitehurst's claims were substantiated in a massive report issued by DOJ Inspector General Michael Bronwich last April, which blasted the bureau for flawed forensic work and pro-prosecution testimony, and called Whitehurst's allegations of intentional misconduct by lab investigators "overstated and incendiary."

A lawsuit that Whitehurst filed against the Justice Department is still pending, in which he demands that DOJ identify defendants whose chances for fair trials may have been compromised by flawed lab work or testimony. The FBI has asserted that no prosecutions were jeopardized because of any problems in the lab.

Major cities, major appointments

Seeking a crime-fighter, Philly taps NYPD's former No. 2 official

Philadelphia officials are hoping that one of the key architects of New York City's successful anti-crime strategy can do for the City of Brotherly Love what he did for the Big Apple — marshal the resources of the Police Department to forge a strategy that will result in a protracted decline in crime.

In a move that surprised observers who expected an insider to be named to the post, Mayor Edward Rendell on Feb. 18 tapped John Timoney, the former No. 2 official in the New York City Police Department, as his new Police Commissioner, replacing Richard Neal, who resigned amid mounting criticism over the Police Department's perceived inability to control crime.

Timoney, 49, is known as an innovator who helped devise Compstat, the strategy that uses high-tech methods like computer-mapping to spot crime hot spots, as well as frequent meetings of precinct commanders and top brass, to make better deployment and operational decisions.

The Compstat strategy has been replicated by police agencies nationwide since it was introduced by former Police Commissioner William Bratton in 1994. New York crime has dropped dramatically since the beginning of the decade, and Compstat is generally given a lot of credit for the plunge.

"I am making a promise to the citizens of Philadelphia that the Police Department will actively go out and fight crime," Timoney said during a whirlwind first day of meetings with scores of city officials and community leaders. "I'm a hands-on individual. I won't just give the orders. I'll go out in the streets myself."

Timoney is only the third outsider to head the Philadelphia Police Department in this century. But Rendell, who met Timoney last year when the Irish-born, Bronx-raised cop consulted on a redeployment plan for the PPD, insisted that his choice "should not be seen as a



John Timoney

"I'm a hands-on individual"

reflection on any of our commanders."

Timoney, a veteran marathon runner, also downplayed his status as an outsider, saying, "My track record will help me."

The appointment heartened critics of the Police Department, one of the harshest of whom, City Council President John F. Street, told The Philadelphia Inquirer that Timoney appears to have the qualities required to reform the department and focus its mission.

"The issue is effective policing," said Street, who is the city's most powerful black official and is widely expected to challenge Rendell next year. "That is what people want. They want to feel safe. They want to be able to sit on the porch at night."

Richard Costello, president of the local Fraternal Order of Police, said his members are taking a wait-and-see attitude toward the new commissioner. "I think optimism is too strong a word" to describe the rank-and-file's reaction to Timoney's appointment, he told The Inquirer.

Neal, 57, who was appointed by

Rendell in 1992, resigned Feb. 12 to take security consulting jobs with Drexel University and the Penn's Landing Corp., which oversees development along the Delaware River. Neal said he was leaving for personal reasons, not because of criticism of his management style. Yet he had a few choice words for his detractors, saying they "wouldn't know how to deploy a police officer if they tripped over one."

Timoney graduated from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and also holds master's degrees from Hunter College and Columbia University. Even as he pursued his studies, Timoney was cutting his policing teeth in tough South Bronx and Harlem precincts. His rise through the ranks included a stint as commander of the Chinatown precinct in the mid-1980s, a period when the area was being terrorized by rival Chinese gangs.

In 1992, he was appointed to head the department's Office of Management Analysis and Planning, where he honed his skills in personnel deployment. When William Bratton became New York's Police Commissioner in 1994, he promoted Timoney to Chief of Department, the highest uniformed rank in the agency, in a move that leapfrogged him several ranks over other higher-ranking contenders for the job. The youngest person ever appointed to that position, Timoney was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the 39,000-officer force.

Not long after Bratton left in 1996, following an escalating series of confrontations with Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Timoney was unceremoniously cut loose. His ambition was to become NYPD commissioner, but that dream was dashed when he referred to Howard Safir — Giuliani's hand-picked successor to Bratton — as a "lightweight." Giuliani, incensed, ordered Timoney to clean out his desk, and he complied.

Surprise choice to lead Chicago PD

Even the nominee himself is caught off guard by the Mayor's choice.

In a move that surprised observers, as well as the candidate himself, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley recently chose the popular but publicity-shy Chief of Detectives Terry Hillard to lead the city's 13,000-officer Police Department.

Hillard will succeed Matt Rodriguez, who resigned as Police Superintendent last November amid disclosures of his long-time yet rule-violating friendship with a convicted felon.

In selecting the 54-year-old Hillard, the first black officer ever to head the Police Department's detective division, Daley bypassed two other candidates, Raymond Risley, chief of the Organized Crime Division, and the odds-on favorite for the post, Deputy Supt. Charles Ramsey, who has headed the agency's highly successful community-policing effort.

Daley said the decision was one of the hardest he's ever had to make as Mayor of the nation's third-largest city. "It was just my gut feeling that Terry Hillard would be the best possible person," he said during a news conference where he introduced his nominee. "His experience in the field, his experience with the rank and file, and the vision that Terry Hillard has and where he wants the department to go with the citizens, to me, were the key factors."

"Terry Hillard's overall understanding of the Police Department from top to bottom is outstanding," Daley continued. "He has a vision for the Police Department and he understands the issues. He will be a take-charge Superintendent."

Despite his reputation for working quietly behind the scenes, Hillard confidently faced reporters and camera crews at the Feb. 18 news conference. "I don't shy away from the media," he said. "Why should I leave my office from 11th and State [at police headquarters]... and hog the press conference? Let [detectives] get some of the credit. That helps build morale. It's all about giving people proper credit where credit is due."

"Totally flabbergasted" was how Hillard described his reaction to being nominated for the job of top cop, an appointment that is expected to win City Council approval. Widely known and respected among front-line officers, Hillard vowed "never to forget where I started from, patrolling the streets of the city," adding that he would continue his frequent roll-call visits to local precincts.

And, he said, he would do all he could to eliminate the barriers between line officers and the upper echelons, acknowledging that the top hierarchy of the department "is somewhat isolated down at 11th and State."

"Remember the United [Airlines] commercial where the

executives come out and give everybody a ticket?" he asked. "That's what we're going to do from 11th and State, from the superintendent on down to the commanders. We're going to go out and reconnect with these police officers on the street so they can see we're very real people."

Hillard takes the job at a crucial time in the CPD's history. Amid its community-policing successes, over the past 18 months the agency has been rent by scandals, including allegations of brutality against minorities and charges of corruption. The superintendent-designate offered a few hints about the kinds of changes he might have in store once he is confirmed to the post. In an interview with a local radio station, Hillard said he would institute formal community policing training in all areas of the department, and would put narcotics units on a seven-days-a-week schedule to battle drug-dealing and street gangs.

Hillard also made clear that he has high expectations of his officers. "If they want to be straddling the fence and not walking the walk and talking the talk, then they don't need to be here. That's the bottom line."

Relations between Daley and police remain strained, largely due to an ongoing controversy over the Mayor's plan to award up to 30 percent of new promotions to sergeant on the basis of merit rather than test scores. William Nolan, president of the Fraternal Order of Police that represents Chicago police officers and a frequent critic of the Mayor's police policies, said he was pleased with the choice of Hillard.

"He's a fine man, a good man... a policeman's policeman," Nolan told Law Enforcement News. "We'll do whatever we can to work with him. Hopefully, we'll be able to come up with some conclusion [to the test controversy]."

Hillard's stellar policing career began in 1968, shortly after his return from military service in Vietnam. Initially, he wanted to become a trooper with the Illinois State Police, but decided on applying to be a Chicago police officer which his mother complained that he had been away from home too long.

In 1975, Hillard was shot twice during a gun battle with suspects on the South Side, in an incident that led to his receiving the department's highest honor, the Superintendent's Award of Valor. Later, he served as bodyguard to mayors Jane Byrne and Harold Washington. He was appointed chief of detectives in 1995.

County jail gets its records access back

At issue: Did Arkansas inmates tap into state files?

Access to state criminal records was restored to Faulkner County, Ark., this month after an investigation determined that county jail inmates did not tap into records through the computerized system as they carried out clerical tasks for the Sheriff's Department.

The county's access to the Arkansas Crime Information Center database was suspended briefly in February when center officials received reports from Conway police officers who saw Act 309 inmates — prisoners serving time on state charges who are housed in county jails, and who are assigned menial tasks during their stays — booking other prisoners at the Faulkner County Jail and using ACIC information to carry out the task.

That practice would violate Department of Corrections guidelines that prohibit convicted felons from having access to ACIC files or bar prisoners from booking other prisoners.

But an investigation undertaken by the Department of Corrections subsequently determined that the inmates did

not tap into ACIC files. "There was no evidence indicating that an inmate ever directly used one of those computer terminals," said Department of Corrections spokeswoman Dina Tyler. "They weren't tapping on the computer, it's just that they were getting too close in those two instances to information."

In one instance, a prisoner was moving a stack of paperwork from one spot in the office to another. "At the top of that stack was an ACIC printout concerning the inmate. Whether or not he looked at it, we don't know, but he certainly had the opportunity to do so. It should have been under separate cover," Tyler told Law Enforcement News.

In another incident that occurred when the jail's ACIC computers were inoperable, an inmate was told by a deputy to call the Conway Police Department in order to find out whether a prisoner about to be released had any outstanding warrants. "The inmate did as instructed but that gave him access to information he shouldn't have had," Tyler added.

Conway Police Chief Bohby Harkrider said his agency will provide ACIC information to Sheriff Marty Montgomery if he requests it, but does not disclose the information to Act 309 inmates.

Montgomery did not return a call from LEN for comment on the matter, but in an interview last month with The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Montgomery said election-year politics might be to blame for the allegations.

The Sheriff said he wondered why the ACIC moved quickly to deny access to its system when he was told a few days earlier that no problems existed. Steve Johnson, an ACIC field representative who took the reports from Conway police, said the center has proof that Act 309 prisoners were involved in the booking process and that the Sheriff "is going to have to accept that fact and fix it."

Montgomery has assured corrections officials that inmates are no longer assigned to tasks in the jail's booking area, Tyler said.

Chiefs renew call for investing in kids

The nation's law enforcement executives are once again calling on elected officials to support major increases in funding for programs that help children and youth — programs they say are proven effective in reducing the burgeoning juvenile crime rate.

Members of the Major Cities Chiefs, an arm of the International Association of Chiefs of Police made up of police executives from 49 of the largest U.S. urban areas and Canada's three largest cities, are calling on politicians to actively support increased funding for adequate child health care and quality after-school programs.

In a resolution adopted at the group's winter meeting in Salt Lake City on Feb. 19, the chiefs asserted that investments "to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime."

"The evidence is in that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become

good neighbors instead of criminals," the resolution stated. "We therefore call on all our elected officials to adopt policies:

¶ To provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality child care that their parents can afford;

¶ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers;

¶ Provide for all of America's school-age children and teens after-school programs, and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community-service experience."

In pointing to the need for increased social services for youth, several chiefs described the dire consequences they say will result if the request for increased investment goes unheeded.

Police Chief Louis Cobarruviaz of San Jose, Calif., said that the need for quality child care is crucial since most

parents must work outside the home to make ends meet.

"Many parents [who work] are forced to place their children in poor quality child care environments which undermine their children's chances to develop sound values and skills," said Cobarruviaz. "Children who are negatively affected by the care in childhood grow up to place society in danger.... If we invest in kids today, we won't have to pay the price tomorrow."

Los Angeles County, Calif., Sheriff Sherman Block said many police agencies, including his own, are doing as much as they can to help at-risk youths through mentoring and recreation programs, "but what we can do is just a drop in the bucket compared to the need."

Nearly 60 Baltimore officers are assigned to oversee 27 after-school program centers, noted Police Commissioner Thomas Frazier, who said crime in the neighborhood where the first facility opened dropped by 42 percent in its first year of operation. "But we still reach barely one in 10 kids. Like most cities, Baltimore needs the resources to do more."

The big-city chiefs' resolution comes shortly after the release of a new report by the group Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a national anti-crime organization that counts a number of law enforcement heavyweights among its founders and supporters. The group conducted a survey of 548 police chiefs, 92 percent of whom agreed that government must invest in youth programs

if it is really serious about reducing crime.

Among the report's findings:

¶ Toddlers who are denied quality child care may be up to five times more likely to become chronic lawbreakers as adults and more than 10 times more likely to engage in juvenile delinquency by age 16.

¶ Most violent juvenile crime occurs between the hours of 3:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., with the number of violent incidents tripling in the first hour. This "prime time for juvenile crime" can be reduced by 40 percent to 75 percent, according to some studies, if quality after-school programs are in place.

¶ Only a fraction of the at-risk youngsters have access to pre-school programs like Head Start and Early Head Start. In addition, the study estimated that 5 million "latchkey kids" are on the streets without adult supervision after school.

Dallas Police Chief Ben E. Click said investments made now could have positive, far-reaching effects in coming years. "This is a one-generation solution to our juvenile crime problem," he said of the resolution.

Conversely, failure to provide the necessary services will mean "more bright yellow crime-scene tape, more prisons and thousands of good men and women, and boys and girls lying in pools of blood," said Boston Police Commissioner Paul F. Evans. "The fact is, making sure kids can get good child care and after-school activities saves money and lives."

'Cookbook' cop gets fried

Bowing to pressure from New York Police Commissioner Howard Safir, one of the city's top police officials last month submitted his retirement papers in the wake of accusations that supervisors purposely underreported the number of crimes in the subway.

Facing demotion and the loss of his command, Transit Bureau Chief Kenneth Donahue, one of the NYPD's 10 highest-ranking officials, indicated he would retire, effective this month.

Donahue would have been the highest-ranking official to be punished for undercounting crime stats or tolerating the practice, known in NYPD jargon as "cooking the books."

According to The New York Times, the manipulation of subway crime figures involved commanders sending officers to interview victims repeatedly in an effort to find details that would allow them to reclassify subway incidents as street crimes.

Safir acknowledged that the practice had been going on for nearly 20 years, but that it did not affect overall crime statistics for the city because subway crimes did not go unreported but were shifted to precincts.

In February, Safir said that subway crime had been underestimated by as much as 20 percent.

Put more bulk in your reading diet:

Law Enforcement News is available on a limited basis for bulk distribution to professional conferences, seminars, training groups and other gatherings. For more information on how you can help improve the reading diet of your colleagues, contact the Circulation Department at (212) 237-8442.

LAW ENFORCEMENT • CORRECTIONS • PROSECUTION & DEFENSE • EMERGENCY SERVICES

IT WOULD BE A CRIME NOT TO EXHIBIT!

Two Great Shows Meeting Technology and Equipment Needs of the Future...Head-On

WEST

Wed.-Thurs.,
May 6-7, 1998
Los Angeles
Convention
Center
Los Angeles, CA
10am-5pm

EAST

November
17-18, 1998
Hynes Convention
Center, Boston, MA

NORTHEASTERN



Endorsed By:



International
Lodging Safety &
Security Association
International Narcotic
Enforcement Officer's Assn.
International Police Assn.
National Constables Assn.
National Tactical
Officer's Assn.

Media Sponsor



CORRECTIONS
FORUM
ALTERNATIVES
The Official Journal of the
Juvenile Offender



For More Information:

RDP Group,
30 Tower Lane, Avon, CT 06001
Call Toll Free: 800-243-9774 • E-mail: rdpsteven@aol.com

★ EXPO FREE TO ATTENDEES

★ EXCITING EXHIBITS

- New products such as: Vehicles, Software, Body Armor, Weapons
- Latest Technologies
- New Services
- Free demonstrations of terrific products
- The best of the best

★ SEMINAR SERIES

By Northeastern University's renowned College of Criminal Justice

★ ATTENDEES from

- Law Enforcement • Emergency Services • Public Safety
- Security • Corrections
- Judicial System

★ LOTS OF GREAT GIVEAWAYS AND FREE DRAWINGS

PUBLIC SAFETY • PROSECUTION & DEFENSE • CORRECTIONS

Dallas PD says black officers mirror city makeup

Long a target of protests over its racial makeup, the Dallas Police Department is making progress in its efforts to make the ranks of its sworn employees reflect the increasingly diverse population it serves, according to statistics kept by the agency.

For the first time, the number of black employees at the officer rank is virtually proportionate to the city's black population, according to a report last month in *The Dallas Morning News*, which based its information on DPD statistics.

And within months, according to officials interviewed by the newspaper, the share of Hispanic officers also will be proportionate to the city's Hispanic population.

As of Jan. 1, 29 percent of the department's 1,145 officers were black and 18.8 percent Hispanic. The 1990 census, which the city uses to set hiring goals, showed Dallas had 29.5 percent black residents and 18.8 percent Hispanics.

The term "Hispanic" is used by the Census to describe ethnic origin, not race, and thus Hispanics can be counted as any race.

Asian-Americans make up less than 1 percent of officers and senior corporals, *The Morning News* reported. One of the department's highest-ranking employees, Executive Assistant Director of Finance Jennifer Lee, is Asian-

American.

[At the very top, Chief Ben Click and Executive Assistant Chief Willard Rollins are white. Executive Assistant Chief Manuel Vasquez is Hispanic, and Executive Assistant Chief Robert Jackson is black.]

Women represent nearly 19 percent of Dallas police officers; the department's 1991 hiring goal for women is 26.8 percent.

The police statistics also show that the DPD has a long way to go before minorities are proportionately represented in its upper ranks. Whites, who make up 55.3 percent of the city's population, according to 1990 Census figures, account for about 75 percent of the 1,697 senior corporals, sergeants, lieutenants, captains and chiefs.

Click acknowledged the imbalance, but said the department continues to make headway in improving promotional opportunities for all officers.

"We have made tremendous progress in building a relationship with the community that is based on trust and confidence. We strongly believe that the composition of the Police Department should reflect the diversity of the community. We will continue to work to achieve those levels of representation," he said.

Still, the figures on the number of minority officers are heartening in light of the tenuous, nearly incendiary po-

lice-minority relations that were the norm less than 10 years ago — a period in which the racial dynamics of the Police Department were a major issue.

To remedy the scant numbers of minorities on the force, the City Council adopted an affirmative-action plan in 1988. Revised in 1993 and due to expire this September, the plan stipulates that each new class of police recruits should be one-third black, one-third Hispanic and one-third female. It also sets promotional goals for women and minorities in each rank.

In 1992, protesters massed outside the Police Department, charging that the effort was moving too slowly in hiring and advancing minorities. Two years later, an internal audit concluded that the department had hired dozens of officers in the early 1990s with question-

able credentials. Critics of the affirmative-action plan, including the Dallas Police Association, charged that standards had been lowered, leading to the hiring of unqualified applicants.

The DPA still opposes affirmative action, particularly the practice of "skip promotions" — allowing minorities who score lower on tests to rank higher on promotional lists than whites with better scores. The apparent progress made by the department shows that the time is near to dismantle the controversial practice, said the DPA's president, Senior Cpl. Glenn White.

"If you continue to hire minorities and get them in, having an affirmative-action program with skip promotions is not necessary," White told *The Morning News*. "They'll make it down their own."

Other observers cautioned that progress does not mean police now can become complacent on the issue of minority representation in the upper ranks. "If we can reach the representation goal at the police officer level, why not at the senior corporal, sergeant and lieutenant and above?" said Sgt. Thomas Glover, president of the Texas Peace Officers' Association, a predominantly black organization.

"We're convinced that more officers of color are pushed out once they get into the system," said John Wiley Price, a Dallas County Commissioner who led black protests against Police Department hiring and promotional policies. "It's one thing to look at a snapshot now. But six months from now, that snapshot could drop by some percentage."

Mostly white suburban force changes its hue: to red-faced

Diversity effort leads to cheating scandal; 55 cops face dismissal

Fifty-five Suffolk County, N.Y., police officers face dismissal for lying about their qualifications in connection with a scandal over an entrance examination designed to increase diversity in the ranks.

Police Commissioner John C. Gallagher said in a statement Feb. 26 that the names of the 55 officers implicated in what has become known as "Testgate" had been submitted to him by a five-person review committee investigating the scandal. "Five months ago I promised we would clean out anyone who got their job by deceit," Gallagher said. "Today I am taking step one in keeping that vow."

The scandal began with complaints received by Gallagher about cheating and favoritism in the hiring and promotion of officers to the 2,700-officer force. The review committee determined that the officers "engaged in a pattern of inconsistencies indicative of fraud."

The names have been submitted to the county's Civil Service Department, which will appoint hearing officers and conduct hearings for each officer, a process that could take months. "Unfortunately, some very good people are falling victims to this investigation," said Jeff Frayler, president of the Suffolk Police Benevolent Association. "We are prepared to stand by them to the end."

The officers' identities had not been made public as Law Enforcement News went to press, but Gallagher told Newsday that two of the 55 are related to current or former high-ranking police officials. Of those officers who allegedly gave false answers, 16 took the test in 1988, 24 took the 1992 test, and 15 took both exams.

The officers are accused of submitting false information about their backgrounds in order to get higher rankings on the hiring list. Much of the false information that was uncovered was given in a portion of the examination that focused on educational and biographical facts, such as the level of education and the number of family members who were police officers. Those questions factored heavily in the applicant's ultimate success on the examination, which has been taken by tens of thousands of candidates over the past decade.

Committee members began their

review with the 1988 test because that exam underwent major revisions to comply with U.S. Justice Department requirements of a race-neutral test in order to increase the job prospects of minority applicants. The changes included adding the bank of biographical questions.

Competition is fierce for the jobs with the Long Island-based police department, whose officers can earn as much as \$70,000 a year after just a few months. Currently, the department has just 54 black officers.

The committee spent six months comparing test answers with the background information disclosed for the 1,000 officers who were hired based on the results of the tests administered in 1988 and 1992.

The committee will soon begin its review of the exam given in 1996. No officers have been hired from that list because a grand jury last year charged that as many as 700 of the 37,000 people who took that exam got an unfair edge.

At least two police officials face departmental or criminal charges stemming from the Testgate scandal. Insp.

Martin Raber of the Fifth Precinct allegedly directed minorities to provide answers as close as possible to those given by white males in order to achieve high scores — which were matched against predetermined profiles of effective police officers. Raber has denied the charges, which were pending as of last month.

Last June, a grand jury indicted Sgt. Brian Buggé on 37 counts involving the theft of test questions and unauthorized access to the profiles.

Commissioner Gallagher told Newsday that the review committee could not determine whether any of the 55 officers took test-preparatory courses offered by Buggé.

Most of the complaints on which Gallagher acted stemmed from allegations made by black officers. "We've been concerned about the fairness of the tests for a long time," said Keith Belfield, a spokesman for the Suffolk County Guardians, a black officers' group. "We'll be interested to see whether those found guilty will be dismissed or if they will find a loophole. Now they need to take a look at the sergeant's test and the lieutenant's test."

Pittsburgh moves toward info at the ready

Pittsburgh is poised become an information hub for law enforcement agencies in the region, after recently entering into a \$1-million contract to install a wireless communications system that will give cruiser-bound officers access to critical data sources.

The city received funding for the effort through a grant from the CopsMore (Making Officer Redeployment Effective) program administered by the U.S. Justice Department. City officials announced last year that they would match Federal grant money with nearly \$12 million in local funding to upgrade the communications system used by the Bureau of Police.

The system, which is being purchased from Paradigm4 Inc., a New York City firm that specializes in wireless-system integration services and applications, is expected to be in place by year's end, along with a host of other technological upgrades that are being made within the agency, according to Steven J. Schmitt, a city spokesman.

The contract will allow the 1,200-officer Police Bureau to connect the computers it recently purchased from Mobile Data Communication Corp. to a cellular data packet system that will transmit data and voice communications. It will give police near-immediate access to the FBI's National Crime Information Center as well as to records kept by the state's Commonwealth Law Enforcement Agency Network, Schmitt told Law Enforcement News.

The second phase of the project will include the installation of "silent-dispatch" technology that is being used increasingly by police agencies. The system also will be expanded to include access to local criminal-justice data bases, and the addition of a records-

management system. Traffic from the cellular data network will be handled by AT&T and Bell Atlantic, Schmitt said.

"They're constantly improving the speed and performance of the network," Schmitt said of the two telecommunications giants. "We see that as a benefit...as opposed to us doing it privately and having our own cellular network. We won't have to continually upgrade our infrastructure, towers and satellite dishes."

The new system will put all Pittsburgh police officers, whether assigned to cruisers or station houses, on the same page technologically speaking, Schmitt noted. "The Windows NT applications in that car's work station will be the same applications that sit inside computers in police headquarters, precincts and detective units. It will provide a common platform from which the officers can access information."

Once the system is complete, the city will have the ability to serve as an information nexus for the scores of law enforcement agencies in the greater Pittsburgh area, Schmitt said. "Our long-term goal is to bring in as many regional and municipal governments to the wireless network," he said. "That will allow the numerous jurisdictions in the region to share information."

The Bureau of Police has benefited greatly from CopsMore grants, Schmitt said, pointing to more than \$4 million in funding that has allowed the agency to install an imaging system that collects forms and routes them to areas of the agency that need them. "Traditionally, we've been using paper to do that."

Schmitt said that all of the systems are expected to be installed by the end of 1998.

Investigating E.E.O. Complaints of Discrimination



Presented by
Equal Employment Consulting Services Inc.
and
John Jay College of Criminal Justice,
Criminal Justice Center

May 4-8, 1998, New York City

Recruitment Hiring Details/Assignments
Discipline Promotions Terminations
Sexual Harassment

\$595

Contact: **EECS Inc.**, 1954 Columbia Road, N.W., Suite 306, Washington, DC 20009. (202) 232-2685.
Criminal Justice Center, (212) 237-B63B.

Sponsors: National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, Hispanic National Law Enforcement Association; U.S. Marshals Service: Grand Council of Hispanic Societies; Guardians Association; Port Authority of N.Y. / N.J. Police Hispanic Society, Gay Officers Action League [N.Y.P.D.]

Anderson:

Phony credentials, genuine concern

By Donald Anderson

A 75th anniversary Interpol badge in a leather wallet, along with an Interpol identification card — all for \$150 plus \$3 shipping.

The big ad in Shotgun News sure caught this writer's eye, and eventually it sparked the interest, and ire, of local, national and even international authorities, as well as the media.

Knowing that Interpol has no "police force," nor any badge, I promptly sent in my order, eager to see what would arrive. What I received would delight any terrorist (or any police impersonator): a badge and ID that could fool many police officers, especially considering that most have no idea Interpol has no force of its own.

What Interpol does have is a membership of some 177 nations, known as "member bureaus." In the case of the United States, this is the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with a small staff of FBI special agents assigned. Other nations have their own police forces carrying out the work of Interpol. It is not a police agency. It is an international organization of police whose mission is to help in keeping track of criminals, fraud and terrorism and to exchange information on worldwide crime through its membership.

Strangely, an initial inquiry about the Interpol badge, to the chief of the U.S. bureau of Interpol at FBI headquarters, went unanswered for three months. Was it possible that for Interpol's 75th anniversary they had authorized a badge?

After all, it's not unusual for a police agency to issue commemorative badges or emblems to honor some event. Collectors worldwide turn to these special issues for their legitimate purposes. Among police officers, there are thousands of legitimate collectors of insignia.

Well, finally, in late December 1997, a letter was sent to FBI Director Louis J. Freeh. Included was a copy of the first inquiry from the previous August and the suggestion that these badges might compromise security at airports and present a variety of other hazards worldwide. Within days, the

(Donald Anderson is a *LEN* reader and police insignia collector in Miami Shores, Fla.)

general counsel for the U.S. Interpol bureau was on the phone, stating that they were "very concerned."

Then a story appeared in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., daily newspaper, *The Sun-Sentinel*, in which the seller of the Interpol badge, one Vico Confino of Maxsell Corp., was quoted as saying, "We assumed they [Interpol] would be pleased.... They weren't."

Confino, who the following evening was the subject of a local TV news report, stated that sales of the Interpol shield had been discontinued and that he likewise had stopped selling a CIA badge last year. Nonetheless, he maintained that he is breaking no laws by continuing to sell such official-looking badges as those emblazoned with the names of entities including the "Dade County Sheriff's Office," "Las Vegas Metropolitan Police" and "NYPD/DEA."

Undercover officers from Oakland Park, the South Florida locality out of which Maxsell operates, seemed to take a particular liking to Confino's LAPD shield. They bought one and turned it over to the Broward County State Attorney's Office. A criminal charge has been filed against Confino and, at press time, authorities were still trying to serve him with the warrant.

Florida has a strict badge law. The state law, Section 843.085, leaves no doubt that, excepting officers and display-case collectors, wearing, displaying, selling, transferring or giving away not only authorized badges but anything else that "could deceive a reasonable person" is punishable as first-degree misdemeanor, with a maximum penalty of one year in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

It is unclear whether additional local charges will be filed, or whether Federal prosecutors will proceed against Confino.

Margate police Lieut. Jerry Pettigrossi, a 22-year veteran of the northwest Broward County force, was shown the Interpol badge by *The Sun-Sentinel's* reporter. Looking at the badge and accompanying ID card in their black leather case from a distance of about six feet, Pettigrossi commented, "Yeah, that's our badge."



All but guaranteed to fool the average lawman or security officer: bogus Interpol credentials complete with embossed black cowhide wallet. Just fill in your vitals, add your photo and you're on your way.

After a closer look, Pettigrossi noted that the design of the Interpol shield was strikingly similar to a single-toned version Margate had used through 1993, and said: "Jeez, it looks just like ours. This would convince me that it was a real badge if I wasn't aware. The average person wouldn't question it."

Concerning the shields sold by Maxsell, a representative of the Florida Attorney General's Office told the local press, "That would clearly be a violation of the statute," but added that the A-G's office is taking no civil action and that criminal charges are up to local prosecutors to file.

As such, Maxsell's mail-order catalog and ads in trade publications continue to hawk scores of authentic-looking shields, including plenty that go for just \$29 apiece. Moreover, the company promises to custom-make any badge the buyer wants. One flier boasts, "Whatever you write, we can

engrave."

Confino apparently first denied that Florida had a badge law. When he eventually acknowledged the law's existence, he termed the statute "overbroad" and said, "It doesn't mean because they wrote it down that it can be enforced."

What a slap in the face to law enforcement.

Indeed, Ray Sherrard, a retired U.S. Treasury Department agent who over the past 15 years has become a leading expert on police insignia and has published four books on the subject, told *The Sun-Sentinel*, "It's a multimillion-dollar business, and there are abuses. It's a real concern. It's a mess. There's a huge problem in the industry with reprints [reproductions] and unscrupulous dealers."

Sherrard, who lives in Garden Grove, Calif., said several states, including Texas, New Jersey and New York, as well as the Federal Government, all have badge laws similar to Florida's. New York's law, he said, is so strictly enforced that even legitimate insignia collectors' conventions are no longer held in that state.

Sherrard said he only deals with current or retired officers and bona fide collectors, but many of the hundreds of U.S. dealers will sell to anyone the real-looking badges, most of which are manufactured in the Far East to U.S. specifications. Maxsell's order forms, for example, request no information other than name, address and payment information.

"As a guy who spent 28 years in the job myself, it really offends me that this goes on," Sherrard said. "Moreover, the problem is the typical person on the street has no idea what a real police badge looks like."

There are a large number of officers and friends of police who are true collectors of badges and emblems — even of police cars. They hold local and regional shows. An excellent newspaper, *PC News*, is published by an active officer out of Rice Lake, Wis. Many of the badges are collector's items and have long histories and are proudly displayed. Often there will be an announcement of a special anniversary badge being authorized and issued by a department.

Even the 100-year-old International Association of Chiefs of Police has gotten in on this, having issued a gold shield with the IACP emblem. They also offer for sale to members a badge that says "chief of police" with the group's emblem, with the purchaser then able to engrave the rest of the shield.

But the whole thing goes back to the dangers of authentic-looking shields in the wrong hands. Said Margate's Lieutenant Pettigrossi: "Who the hell would buy a \$150 badge? I guess somebody who needed it for hanky-panky."



"PERSONALLY, I LIKE GIULIANI'S CRACKDOWN ON NOISE POLLUTION..."

Court OK's sex-offender notification laws

At long last, New York and New Jersey have a green light — at least for now — to move ahead with implementing laws that allow authorities to notify residents when paroled sex offenders move into their communities.

The go-ahead came Feb. 23 when, without comment, the U.S. Supreme Court last month rejected constitutional

challenges claiming that the laws' notification requirements represented an unconstitutional added punishment.

The two nearly identical appeals, one brought by the Public Defender's Office in New Jersey and the other by the Legal Aid Society of New York, had been filed on behalf of offenders convicted and sentenced before the statutes

took effect.

The New Jersey law took effect in 1994, while New York's was enacted in 1996.

Variations of the so-called "Megan's Laws" — named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old New Jersey girl who was raped and murdered by a paroled sex offender who lived on her street —

are in place in 45 states.

The laws have come under near-constant legal attack since they were enacted, preventing authorities from carrying out and enforcing key provisions. Last August, a Federal appeals court in Philadelphia upheld the New Jersey law on the grounds that the notification provision served a "non-punitive goal" of public safety and did not amount to additional punishment for parolees. Two days later, a Federal appeals court in New York City upheld New York's law on similar grounds.

The same appeals court has also upheld Connecticut's version of the law.

The Supreme Court's action on the two cases did not constitute a ruling on the merits of the law, meaning that the Court may still elect to hear future challenges to the laws. The New Jersey Public Defender's Office currently has a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit in Philadelphia, challenging the notification provision of the law on the grounds that it violates offenders' privacy rights.

The New Jersey law has remained in effect since December, when the Supreme Court refused to extend a stay. Since then, prosecutors have made about 45 notifications.

In New York, officials greeted news of the ruling with a promise to move quickly to set up a 900-number that will make notifications to callers for \$5 a call. Local police departments also will keep the information on file and are given discretion as to whether and how to notify communities when a high-risk offender moves in.

"The lawsuit we fought so hard to win is over," declared New Jersey Attorney General Peter Verniero. "The main challenge to Megan's Law is now concluded."

Maureen Kanka, the murdered girl's mother, who has led a crusade for similar laws nationwide, expressed relief at the Court's action. "I've had faith in this law from Day One," she said. "It is the right thing to do, and it is such a prevalent problem in this country."

Megan's legacy continues to spread

Surrounding the Supreme Court's Megan's Law ruling last month were a flurry of related developments nationwide. Among them:

¶ Nebraska is getting closer to getting its own community-notification law under a bill that would allow authorities to warn residents when convicted sex offenders are moving into their neighborhoods. The bill, which received second-round approval from lawmakers on Feb. 26, would give the Nebraska State Patrol the authority to notify the general public about the release of high-risk offenders.

¶ Sex offenders in Wisconsin would be monitored by the state for life under legislation passed last month by the state Assembly. The bill would allow judges to place anyone convicted of serious sex offenses on permanent supervision following release. The bill is awaiting consideration by the Senate.

¶ In Kentucky, the House approved a bill March 2 that denies parole to sex offenders and creates a special sentence of life without parole for some crimes. The bill was sparked in part by the abduction, rape and murder of a cheerleader, who was killed by a convicted sex offender last year.

¶ The Camden County, N.J., Prosecutor's Office held its first Megan's Law training session for 120 school principals and superintendents on Feb. 17, and held a round of similar sessions the following day for day-care center operators.

¶ A convicted child molester in Maine shot himself to death on New Year's Eve, saying in a tape-recorded message he left behind that he feared living in a world with no forgiveness. Sally Sutton of the Maine Civil Liberties Union said last month that the death of Thomas Varnum should give lawmakers pause as they consider proposals to strengthen the state's sex offender

notification and registration law. "Our public officials need to think about the implications of these laws. When we talk about public safety, we're talking about the safety of these offenders as well," she said.

¶ New York's highest court, the Court of Appeals, upheld the state's two-year-old Megan's Law, in a unanimous decision in which judges concluded that registering sex offenders and notifying communities about them were administrative actions, not criminal penalties.

¶ Officials of Wesleyan University in Connecticut recently used E-mail messages to send notification to disseminate the name and address of a man who was convicted of raping a Wesleyan student in 1989. The message was sent to all 2,700 full-time undergraduates and 800 faculty members and staff, in an action that some said went beyond what is required by state law.

Some findings (& new questions) on use of 'taggants' in explosives

Continued from Page 1

Oklahoma City truck bomb, which killed more than 150 people, as well as the device that exploded under the World Trade Center in New York, killing six. The report concluded there is no practical way to reduce or eliminate the chemical's explosive properties without affecting its primary function as a fertilizer.

The fertilizer industry has launched a voluntary program that encourages sellers to report suspicious purchases of the compound, the report noted.

Following the deadly bombings, Congress rejected several proposals from the Clinton Administration to add taggants to explosive materials, proposals that have met with well-organized opposition from the explosives industry as well as the National Rifle Association.

The NRA and other groups oppose putting taggants into black or smokeless powder, the most commonly used bomb materials, citing concerns about how the taggants would affect the performance of such a widely used compound.

A second NRC committee is studying the issue of adding taggants to black and smokeless powders.

An official of one company already marketing chemical taggants for explosives expressed disappointment with the NRC committee's findings, and appeared to blame industry opposition for the outcome.

William Kerns, the vice president of sales and marketing for Microtrace Inc., a Minnesota firm, told New York

Newsday, "The [explosives] industry does not want tagging, and it looks like they are winning."

ATF officials cautioned that the NRC report is not the last word on the subject. ATF is continuing its study of the issues surrounding prevention of terrorist bombings, including taggants' effects on the environment, their impact after they are added to explosive materials and emerging technologies that

could help prevent terrorist bombings.

Any recommendations garnered from the studies would have to be approved by Congress, noted ATF spokesman Art Resnick.

Added Patrick Hynes, the ATF's assistant director, "We are already actively engaged in answering the questions raised by the NAS study and anticipate answers to those issues by the end of the year."

Seattle braces for manpower crisis

Continued from Page 1

with regional law enforcement agencies to share the costs and resources of academy training.

The department also is examining adopting a problem-solving anti-crime strategy similar to the Compstat program pioneered by the New York Police Department. The program involves review and analysis of accurate and timely information about crime trends, with accountability falling to commanders at the precinct level. In order to adopt the idea, the SPD would require software and other technology upgrades.

While the staff shortage is critical, and one that residents have noticed, Hale said the department doesn't believe it has yet affected public safety. Response times to the highest-priority 911 calls have not slipped nor has crime risen appreciably, she said.

But the proposals might be "too little, too late," said Edwards of the police guild, who added that police planners had ample warning of the upcoming wave of baby boomer retirements and should have planned accordingly. Instead, he said, the department cut 12 positions two years ago despite union objections.

Correcting the situation will require more overtime costs, Edwards predicted. "Unfortunately, since they're not addressing this issue early enough, it's just going to cost them more than it would have, and it may cost a lot more than that. I'm concerned that someone might get seriously hurt."

Still, the guild does not support any effort to fast-track recruitment and training. "We absolutely believe that quality control has to be in place, and we cannot let that slip at all," Edwards said.

POLICE PATROL OFFICER Kettering, Ohio (Pop. 61,000)

The City of Kettering is accepting applications from experienced Police Officers (only), through its Lateral Entry Program to fill future Patrol Officer vacancies. The Kettering Police Department is an accredited agency with a national reputation for excellence.

Qualifications: Candidates must have successfully completed at least one year of service as a full-time Police Officer with a city, county, state or municipal police agency. Candidates must not have been out of active law enforcement status for more than one year at the time of appointment. Candidates must have an Associate's Degree from an accredited college or university OR the equivalent college credits and be actively enrolled in a Baccalaureate Degree Program.

Salary & Benefits: Salary range is \$17.33 per hour (\$36,046 per year) to \$23.40 per hour (\$48,672 per year); entry rate dependent upon experience and training. Extensive fringe benefits.

Applications: Candidates must submit a completed application by May 22, 1998, to: Human Resource Department, Kettering Government Center, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering OH 45429. Additional information on the Internet at www.geocities.com/capitolhill/3186.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Police Chief Snohomish, Wash.

Salary Range: \$52,800 - \$63,500, DOQ
Population: Approx. 7,800.
\$2.1-million budget.
22 FTE's (17 comm. officers).

Twelve years experience in the field and a bachelor's degree are required, with a master's in criminal justice, public administration or related field preferred. Strong leadership skills, and a solid background in operations and finance are also required.

Send résumé and cover letter no later than May 11, 1998, to:

Waldron Resources
101 Stewart, Suite 1200
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 727-9797. Fax: (206) 441-5213. E-mail: waldronco@aol.com

FBI: We'll be ready for on-line gun-sale checks

Continued from Page 1

period. We expect to respond almost immediately in 80 percent of the cases."

In some cases a response to a background-check query might be delayed because criminal records systems in many states may not yet be accessible by computer, thereby preventing linkage with NICS, or because they are incomplete.

A recent article in *The Chicago Tribune* underscored the concerns voiced by officials in Illinois who believe that incomplete or inaccurate records could hobble the system's effectiveness.

The *Tribune* also cited unnamed Justice Department officials who claim that half of the information in the system will be incomplete and inaccurate. No reliable data base on convicted felons exists, the newspaper asserted, although the FBI does keep a massive number of arrest records — about 34 million — in its automated files.

The Justice Department has disbursed about \$200 million to states to help them get their records in order, after a 1994 review found that only 18 percent of the nation's felony records were complete and computerized.

The predicament has supplied fodder to longtime opponents of the Brady

Law, including the National Rifle Association. "If the Justice Department and Janet Reno can't get their act together after spending four years and \$200 million, maybe they ought to think about contracting it out to someone in private industry," said Wayne LaPierre, the NRA's executive vice president.

But Rathbun, a 20-year FBI veteran and former Iowa State Police official who was in charge of that agency's criminal-records unit, downplayed the gravity of the problem, telling LEN recently that the FBI is developing means of accessing state records as quickly and as accurately as possible.

"What we're doing today under the interim Brady provision is about 90,000 checks a week, and those are being done by state and local law enforcement. As time goes on, these records continually improve in quality. It's not a major problem," he said.

"We've got 34 million individuals reflected in these [arrest] files," he added. "I'm not saying that everybody that's ever been arrested, but it's a significant number of that population. And we've got the means to get the dispositions in a relatively timely manner."

In some cases, manual searches will have to be conducted of arrest records

not yet entered into the FBI's National Crime Information Center automated data base, but most of those can be completed in as little as a day, Rathbun said.

Some delays will occur in cases where the disposition of a criminal charge is not known, Rathbun acknowledged, and the FBI is developing procedures with just those situations in mind.

"We intend to set up a point of contact within each state so that if we hit a record of a fugitive who is wanted somewhere, that contact will help us effect the arrest of that individual when he's trying to buy a gun. Likewise, if a record is missing a disposition, that point of contact will help us in finding out if an arrest led to a conviction or acquittal."

Rathbun noted that the FBI also has the capability to "electronically communicate with arresting agencies, so that many times, even though they haven't submitted the arresting data to us or to the state, they'll have a result in their files. We can't retrieve that immediately, but we can within a reasonable period of time."

The NICS will be scanning a host of other records that are also maintained by the FBI, including data bases —

some of them newly created as part of the FBI's NCIC-2000 records-upgrade project — on dishonorably discharged military personnel, those with histories of mental illness, fugitives, deported felons and those named in orders of protection or barred from purchasing firearms because of previous domestic violence offenses, Rathbun added.

The instant-check system will work much like the one in operation by the Virginia Department of State Police since 1989, Rathbun said. [See sidebar.] In the 34 states where authorities don't conduct checks, gun dealers will be provided with a toll-free, 800-number they can call to get request one.

"What some states will do is continue doing the handgun checks, but they'll contact us for the other check [on long guns]," said Rathbun. "Then in other states, the state and locals won't check [either purchase], and the dealer will have to contact the FBI on all gun sales."

"We expect to give an answer back to the dealer within an hour or so as to whether he can proceed with the sale

or not," Rathbun added. "But in some instances where the disposition is missing, or in cases involving protection orders and domestic violence cases, we'll have to do more research on them, and that will take a day or so. In any event, we don't expect anything to go over three days."

In addition to the 800 number, the FBI is devising other "electronic methods" of conducting background checks, including specially designed software that gun dealers can install on their own computers with a dial-up modem that will allow them to connect with NICS. Other dealers may be issued small, inexpensive keyboard devices that will be patched in to the system. A third method will utilize a card-swipe device in states that issue driver's licenses with magnetic strips.

One question yet unresolved is who will bear the expense of conducting the background check, which the FBI estimates will cost about \$13-\$15 per request. Rathbun predicted that gun dealers will ultimately opt to pass the cost along to consumers.

Va. instant-check is 10-year success story

To get an idea of how well computerized background checks on would-be gun purchasers will work, one need look no further than Virginia, where for nearly 10 years the Department of State Police has successfully operated the first such system ever developed as part of its Firearms Transaction Program.

The system, which was mandated by state gun-control legislation in 1988, has processed more than 1.4 million requests as of Feb. 28, according to Capt. R. Lewis Vass, who heads the State Police's Records Management Unit, with over 14,000 prospective firearms buyers having been prevented from buying guns.

In Virginia, grounds for denying a handgun purchase include pending felony charges or indictments; past felony convictions; outstanding warrants and arrests; dishonorable military discharges, and histories of mental illness. Other reasons for rejection include exceeding the state's limit on one handgun purchase per buyer per month or non-residents trying to buy guns illegally to transport out of state.

"It's worked out very, very well," said Vass, a 32-year State Police veteran. The Virginia system has served as the model for the FBI's National Instant Check System due to go on line later this year, and Vass served on the advisory board to the FBI that researched and designed NICS.

In addition, he said, the background check system has given law enforcement an extra edge in the hunt for criminals, serving as a crime-fighting tool that helps authorities track down and apprehend wanted fugitives.

"We've identified 950 wanted persons and have been able to

arrest 435 of them before they left the jurisdiction," Vass told *Law Enforcement News* recently. In addition, more than 3,000 people whose efforts to purchase handguns illegally were tripped up by the system have been prosecuted, he added.

It's also turned away prospective gun purchasers with felony convictions they racked up overseas, including France, England, Spain and the U.S. territory of Guam.

The system performs an average of 800 checks a day, but has done as many as 2,000 in a day. The system is accessible through computer terminals in shops owned by the state's top-20 gun dealers, while others can gain access by dialing an 800-number. A transaction takes an average of 1 minute, 45 seconds, Vass said.

Minor problems relating to outdated or inaccurate criminal records have occurred, Vass noted, but they've been minimized because all law enforcement agencies submit the data to the central criminal-history repository maintained by the State Police.

The status of cases usually appears on the record because court clerks are required to file case dispositions within 30 days of adjudication, he added.

When problems do arise, such as cases with no disposition, "we can usually resolve those in a couple of hours, often in less than that," Vass told LEN. "If it's an out-of-state case, it can take a little longer."

As a result, except for very old records, cases with pending trials and cases too new to have dispositions, "our repository is about 96.97 percent complete," he noted.

— Jacob R. Clark

Law Enforcement News

Affirmative-action programs looking a little black & blue

How is it a mother's force is too much

Scouting the officer of the future

Time to rethink academy & field training

Headlines are not enough...

To do a tough job in changing times, you need timely, comprehensive, straightforward information. For the latest trends and ideas, turn to **Law Enforcement News**. Twenty-two times a year, we'll put you in touch with the thinking of those who are shaping law enforcement policy and practice.

YES! I'm ready for the professional advantage of **Law Enforcement News**. Enter my one-year subscription and bill me just \$22.00. (Return the coupon to LEN, 899 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10019.)

Name/Title _____

Agency _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

(31598)

Upcoming Events

MAY

1. Effective Performance Appraisals. Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management. Fairfield, Conn. \$95.

3-6. Annual Conference. Presented by the Midwest Gang Investigators Association. Milwaukee.

4-5. Tracing Illegal Proceeds from Drug, Currency & Financial Crimes. Presented by the Investigation Training Institute. Boston. \$395.

4-5. Dispute Resolution for Law Enforcement Executives. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Troy, Ohio.

4-5. Police Leadership: Managing the Future. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Bellingham, Wash.

4-6. Commercial Motor Vehicle Drug Interdiction. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$375.

4-6. The Police Middle Manager: Untapped Potential. Presented by the Public Safety Institute. Orlando, Fla. \$325.

4-6. Civil Liability of Police Administrators. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$350.

4-7. Advanced Hostage Negotiations. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$500.

4-7. Comprehensive Staff Inspections Training. Presented by the Institute of Po-

lice Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$495.

4-8. Executive & Dignitary Protection. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Colorado Springs, Colo.

4-8. Investigating EEO Complaints of Discrimination. Presented by Equal Employment Consulting Services Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. New York \$595.

4-8. Physical Fitness Trainers' Course. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Dallas.

4-8. Police Executive Development: The Pursuit of Quality. Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute. Dallas. \$495

4-8. Crime Scene Technology. Presented by Sirchie FingerPrint Laboratories. Youngville, N.C. \$395.

4-8. Homicide Investigations. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Pensacola, Fla. \$525.

4-8. Advanced Latent Development & Blood Detection Techniques. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. St. Petersburg, Fla. \$525.

4-8. Tactical Drug Law Enforcement. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$550.

4-8. Computerized Traffic Accident Reconstruction 4. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$800.

4-8. Crime Scene Technology 3. Presented

by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$650.

4-8. Child Abuse Seminar. Presented by the Delinquency Control Institute. San Diego.

4-15. Advanced Traffic Accident Investigation. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Phoenix \$695

5-7. Street Survival '98. Presented by Calibre Press. Fort Lauderdale, Fla. \$199.

5-8. Criminal Patrol Drug Enforcement. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Elizabethtown, Ky. \$395.

6-7. National Criminal Justice Expo & Conference-West. Presented by the Northwestern University College of Criminal Justice. Los Angeles.

6-7. Supervisory Survival for Women. Presented by Public Safety Training Inc. Monmouth, Ore.

6-7. Officer Street Survival. Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training. Cheshire, Conn. \$190.

6-8. Dive Rescue I. Presented by the Public Safety Institute. Orlando, Fla. \$325.

6-8. Civil Disorder Resolution: Field Force Tactics. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Springfield, Mass.

6-8. Internal Affairs. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$350.

7-8. Concealment Areas Within a Vehicle. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$325.

7-8. Breakthrough Strategies to Teach & Counsel Troubled Youth. Presented by Youth Change. Houston. \$125

8. Supervising Women. Presented by Public Safety Training Inc. Monmouth, Ore.

11-12. Supervisory Survival for Women. Presented by Public Safety Training Inc. Monmouth, Ore.

11-12. Developing a Legally Defensible Curriculum. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Toledo, Ohio.

11-12. OCAT Instructor/Use-of-Force: Surviving a Legal Encounter. Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Harrisburg, Pa.

11-12. "Live from the Scene": Police/Media Issues. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$375.

11-13. Civil Disorder Resolution: Command Strategies & Techniques. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Springfield, Mass.

11-13. Criminal Investigative Techniques I. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. St. Peters, Mo.

11-13. High-Performance Work Teams. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Keene, N.H.

11-14. High-Risk Warrant Service. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$450.

11-15. Police Long-Rifle Certification. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Worcester, Mass.

11-15. Basic Hostage Negotiations. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$575.

11-15. Heavy Vehicle Crash Reconstruction. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. New Carlisle, Ind. \$750.

11-15. Basic Investigators School. Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management. Wellesley, Mass. \$395.

11-15. Criminal Patrol Drug Enforcement. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$525.

11-15. Investigative Analysis of Violent Crime. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$550.

11-15. Crime Scene Techniques Involving Surface Skeletons & Buried Bodies. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. St. Petersburg, Fla. \$525.

12-14. Street Survival '98. Presented by Calibre Press. Saratoga Springs, N.Y. \$199.

13. Supervising Women. Presented by Public Safety Training Inc. Monmouth, Ore.

13. Effective Performance Appraisals. Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management. Wellesley, Mass. \$95

13-14. "Live from the Scene": Police/Media Issues. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Boston. \$375

13-15. Violence in the Workplace. Presented by the Public Safety Institute. Orlando, Fla. \$250

13-15. Advanced Tactical Management for Commanders & Supervisors. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Chesterfield, Va.

14. Managing Marginal Employees. Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management. Lewiston, Me. \$95

14-15. Management of Aggressive Behavior. Presented by R.E.B. Training International Inc. East Windsor, Conn. \$375.

14-15. Police Ethics & Sensitivity Training. Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training. Granby, Conn. \$190

14-19. Less Lethal Force Options: Concepts & Considerations in the De-Escalation Philosophy. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Calgary, Alberta.

14-19. Managing the Internal Affairs Unit. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Brown Deer, Wis.

14-19. OCAT Instructor/Use-of-Force: Surviving a Legal Encounter. Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Cleveland, Ohio.

18-20. Tactical Response to High-Risk Incidents & Crimes in Progress. Presented

by the Public Safety Institute. Orlando, Fla. \$395.

18-20. Police Law & Legal Issues: What Every Police Manager Needs to Know. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Springfield, Mass.

18-20. Organizing & Managing Small Agency & Area SWAT Teams. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Albany, N.Y.

18-20. Patrol Response to Tactical Confrontations. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Hudson, N.H.

18-22. Law Enforcement Ethics: Train the Trainer. Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute. San Diego. \$495.

18-22. Juvenile Justice Update. Presented by the Delinquency Control Institute. Los Angeles.

18-22. Advanced Techniques for Unsolved Death Investigations. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$550

18-22. Managing Criminal Investigators & Investigations. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$525.

18-22. Street Gangs Identification & Investigation. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$525.

18-22. Managing the Police Training Function. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$525.

18-22. Police Applicant Background Investigation. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Jacksonville, Fla. \$525.

18-22. Motorcycle Accident Investigation. Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management. Cincinnati. \$525

19-21. High-Risk Incident Management. Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Evanston, Ill. \$450

20-21. Officer Street Survival. Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training. Concord, Mass. \$190.

For further information:

Addresses & phone/fax numbers for organizations listed in calendar of events.

Calibre Press, 666 Dundee Rd., Suite 1607, Northbrook, IL 60062-2727. (800) 323-0037. Fax: (708) 498-6869. E-mail: Seminar@CalibrePress.com.

Delinquency Control Institute, P.O. Box 77902, Los Angeles, CA 90099-3334 (213) 743-2497. Fax: (213) 743-2313.

Craig C. Emerson, 101 Wintergreen Ln., Stafford, VA 22554. (540) 657-8361

Equal Employment Consulting Services Inc., 1954 Columbia Rd., N.W., Suite 306, Washington, DC 20009. (202) 232-2685.

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, P.O. Box 508, East Northport, NY 11731-0472. (516) 368-6117.

Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, LLC, P.O. Box 822, Granby, CT 06035. (860) 653-0788. E-mail: dhutch@net.net. Internet: http://www.patriotweb.com/hlet.

Institute of Police Technology & Management, University of North Florida, 4567 St. Johns Bluff Rd. So., Jacksonville, FL 32216. (904) 646-2722.

International Association of Chiefs of Police, P.O. Box 90976, Washington, DC 20090-0976. 1-800-THE IACP. Fax: (703) 836-4543

International Association of Professional Security Consultants Inc., 1444 1st, N.W., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-2210. (202) 712-9043. Fax: (202) 216-9646. E-mail: IAPSC@IAPSC.org. Web: www.iapsc.org.

Investigation Training Institute, P.O. Box 669, Shelburne, VT 05482. (802) 985-9123.

Midwest Gang Investigators Association, Wisconsin Chapter, P.O. Box 085406, Racine, WI 53408-5406. (414) 226-7048

National Association of Police Organizations, 750 First St., N.E., Suite 920, Washington, DC 20002. (202) 842-4420. Fax:

(202) 842-4396. Web: www.napo.org.

National Criminal Justice Training Council, P.O. Box 1003, Twin Lakes, WI 53181-1003 (414) 279-5735. Fax: (414) 279-5758. E-mail: NCJTC@aol.com.

National White Collar Crime Center, 11 Commerce Dr., Morgantown, WV 26505. 1-800-221-4424, ext. 45. Fax: (304) 291-2282.

New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management, P.O. Box 57350, Babson Park, MA 02157-0350. (617) 237-4724. Web: http://www.niac.net/users/gburke/nlelem.html

Northeastern University College of Criminal Justice, c/o RDP Group, 30 Tower La., Avon, CT 06001. 1-800-243-9774. E-mail: rdpsteven@aol.com.

Northwestern University Traffic Institute, 555 Clark St., P.O. Box 1409, Evanston, IL 60204. (800) 323-4011. Web: www.nwu.edu/traffic/

Public Safety Institute, University of North Florida-IPITM, P.O. Box 607130, Orlando, FL 32860-7130. (407) 647-6080. Fax: (407) 647-3828.

Public Safety Training Inc., P.O. Box 106, Oak Harbor, OH 43449. (419) 732-2520. Fax: (419) 732-3580. E-mail: 74644.2204@compuserve.com.

R.E.B. Training International Inc., P.O. Box 845, Soudard, NH 03464. (603) 446-9393. Fax: (603) 446-9394.

Sirchie FingerPrint Laboratories, 100 Hunter Pl., Youngsville, NC 27596. (919) 554-2244. Fax: (919) 556-2266.

Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, P.O. Box 830707, Richardson, TX 75083-0707. (214) 883-2376. Fax: (214) 883-2458.

Youth Change, 275 N. 3rd St., Woodburn, OR 97071. 1-800-545-5736. Internet: www.youthchg.com.

CHIEFS, MANAGERS AND OFFICERS

ADVANCE POLICING IN
YOUR DEPARTMENT THROUGH
COLLEGE-EDUCATED OFFICERS

ENROLL OFFICERS WITH
BACCALAUREATE DEGREES
AND FORM A CHAPTER OF THE

AMERICAN POLICE ASSOCIATION

5200 Leeward Lane, Suite 102
Alexandria, Virginia 22315
Tel. (703) 971-7935 FAX (703) 922-2768
Web: www.apai.org E-mail: apai@wizard.net

Here it comes, ready or not:

The Brady Law's five-day waiting period for handgun purchases will expire on Nov. 30. Point-of-sale background checks must be up & running by then. Will the FBI be ready? See Page 1.

Seattle's vanishing police officers:

Faced with a wave of pending retirements & cutthroat competition for recruits from other departments in the area, Seattle PD officials scramble to avert a manpower crisis. Page 1.

Who are those guys?

The credentials may be very impressive & legitimate-looking, but you can just about bet that the person carrying them is not with Interpol. Forum, Page 8.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Law Enforcement News

899 Tenth Avenue

New York, NY 10019

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York, N.Y.
Permit No. 1302

What They Are Saying:

"We're going to go out and reconnect with these police officers on the street so they can see we're very real people."

— Terry Hillard, the surprise choice as Chicago's new Police Superintendent. (Story, Page 5.)

"I'm a hands-on individual. I won't just give the orders. I'll go out in the streets myself."

— Recently appointed Philadelphia Police Commissioner John Timoney. (Story, Page 5.)

Law Enforcement

Vol. XXIV, No. 486

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice

In this issue:

Around The Nation: A coast-to-coast roundup of police news. **Page 2, 3.**

People & Places: March goes out with a roar; strange goings-on; the way from San Jose; you shall be served; a seamless transition. **Page 4.**

Grave Injustices: Art market fuels cemetery vandalism, thefts. **Page 5.**

Help wanted: When you have a few positions to fill — even if it's for informants — turn to the classifieds. **Page 5.**

Painting a picture: Survey sketches the landscape of school crime in America. **Page 6.**

Keeping watch: Video, drug-sniffing dogs help crack down on school crime. **Page 6.**

Payback time: Federal judge orders Miami to pay up for "politically correct" promotions. **Page 6.**

Have a heart: Connecticut troopers remind motorists to buckle up. **Page 6.**

Taking it to the streets: NYC eyes monetary incentives for career patrol specialists. **Page 7.**

Forum: Second-guessing police on the issue of hot pursuit; campus crime is a national scandal, with school administrators asleep at the switch. **Page 8.**

Sweet 16: CALEA adds its newest batch of accredited agencies. **Page 10.**

Upcoming Events: Opportunities for professional development. **Page 11.**

Join us in cyberspace!

Law Enforcement News now has its own home page on the World Wide Web — LEN Online — as part of our continuing information outreach to the police profession. You can access the page at <http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/len>.

Where the ba Software makes sex-offen

Enforcing Alabama's sex-offender notification law is faster and requires less effort by Huntsville police as a result of a computer program that utilizes geographic information system technology to notify residents when a parolee moves into their neighborhood.

"Megan's Mapper," which was developed in-house by a crime analyst who worked closely with a local software producer to meet the Police Department's needs, has drastically reduced the time and personnel needed to make notifications, said Carl Samples, an investigator-by-appointment with the department.

"We took a process that took three people three days on average, and turned it into a process that takes one person 30 minutes," Samples told Law Enforcement News.

The software, named after Megan Kanka, the 7-year-old New Jersey girl whose murder by a paroled child molester led to community notification laws nationwide, is also an example of law enforcement's increasing reliance on sophisticated geo-mapping technology to chart crime trends, deploy resources and perform other tasks.

Megan's Mapper, which was developed jointly with Banton Research in Huntsville, "shows where these people are, tells you where

local day-care centers and schools are," Samples explained. "It gives you the addresses of particular houses on the map, and you can print out a list of all of the residences to be notified when a parolee prints the postcards we use to notify residents."

Program also tells parolees if they're moving into a certain area.

Huntsville is one of four cities in Alabama where police chief is charged with making notifications about sex offenders to residents within 1,000 feet of day-care centers, private schools or their victims.

The agency has made 40 notifications on the system, on which it also made more than 500 local sex offender add-ons on the system, allowing

Under (cardiac) arrest defibrillation gear to the

By Jacob R. Clark

An ever-increasing number of law enforcement agencies have come up with a new way of literally making a difference between life and death, equipping officers with portable defibrillators to administer a potentially life-saving electrical shock to cardiac-arrest victims.

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), which strikes about 350,000 people each year, is the fastest-killing heart condition. It occurs when an electrical malfunction of the heart, or fibrillation, causes the heart to quiver and beat erratically, and prevents it from pumping blood through the body.

The victim soon loses consciousness and the ability to breathe, hastening death. However, the patient can be revived in minutes if first-responders have defibrillators on hand. Once an automated external defibrillator is used to administer an electrical shock that acts like a jump-start for the heart, the patient's chances for surviving minimal long-term damage increase exponentially. Advocates of police defibrillator programs say they could save up to 100,000 lives each year.

Since police are often the first on the scene of an SCA incident — and according to one estimate, up to one-fifth of the nation's police agencies are designated first-responders — many agencies have purchased portable AEDs as standard patrol-car equipment.

One of the leading advocates of police defibrillator programs is Chief Leonard A. Matarese of the Indian

Creek Village, Fla., Department of Public Safety, which was the first Florida law enforcement agency to equip its officers with the life-saving devices. The agency, which provides police services to an affluent community across Biscayne Bay from Miami, has six AEDs, including one in its patrol boat.

Street-Proven

Indian Creek police have twice used the units on cardiac-arrest victims in nearby jurisdictions since they were

Oh, how it radios jam

A Justice Department survey of 1,500 law enforcement agencies nationwide shows a crucial need for more allocations of space on the radio spectrum, with more than half of the agencies indicating they need additional frequencies to communicate effectively with each other during emergencies.

The survey, which was conducted by the National Institute of Justice, also found that many agencies are hobbled by their problems relating to interoperability — a term used by public safety agencies to describe the ability of police and other responders to communicate via radio while jointly responding to calls. Many agencies indicated that they encounter serious problems when attempting to commu-